STOURBRIDGE



Thursday, October 10, 2013

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mna media

G-ape at teeth

Orangutan opens up for a biting question at zoo Page 10



Getting the bug

VW enthusiasts riding high with show at hall



Clear victory

Glassboys put on style to halt Poole's unbeaten run Page 40



Centre's **Quest yet** to make a profit

A £1.3 MILLION leisure attraction at the Merry Hill shopping centre has yet to make a profit - say its operators who partly blame the good summer weather for the 'disappointing' financial performance.

Paragon Entertainment opened the Quest attraction at the shopping centre in November last year. It first featured a 14-metre high aerial ropes course,

November last year. It first featured a 14-metre high aerial ropes course,

The operator later added an ice rink over the Christmas period, before introducing a Yu Kids indoor adventure playground and an outdoor Nerf blaster combat arena this year.

But despite it being visited by around 15,000 people in the first two months following opening, Paragon Entertainment has revealed it is yet to make money from the site.

In a report attached to its interim results for the first six months of this year, this executive Mark Pyrah said:

"Financial performance for this attraction has been disappointing and it is not yet appointing and it is not yet generating an operating

profit."

In the results report, the company, which designs and fits out attractions, said its overall revenue grew by 100 per cent to £4.56m in the first six months of this year with earnings before tax up from £11,000 to £106,000.

Job hopefuls at Merry Hill

HUNDREDS of job seekers descended on Merry Hill shopping centre with the hope of getting work over the festive period.

A queue of about 50 people was lined up outside The Black Country Skills Shop ahead of the jobs fair opening last Friday.

Inside, people viewed a large list of 176 jobs, which included positions at Toys R Us, Game and Mothercare. There was also employers such as Halesowen-based Neo Media looking for people for its call centres.

The shop is run by Birmingham Metropolitan College.

K AT TRAGE

MICROLIGHT groups have spoken of their shock after a pilot was killed when his aircraft crashed into power lines.

Paramedics battled to save Andy Tollerton after his two-seater aircraft struck lines in a Stourton field at around 6pm on Sunday

Stourton field at around 6pm on Sunday.

The 52-year-old died and an investigation was launched on Monday, with specialists from the Air Accidents Investigation Branch dispatched to the scene by Barratt's Coppice in Bridgnorth Road.

Microlight groups said they were 'very shocked' to hear what had happened to Mr Tollerton.

Stephen Wilkes, of HadAir based at Halfpenny Green Airport, in Bobbing-ton, near Stourbridge, added: "It is very sad to hear of something like this happening."

Mr Needs said he was har-

"As far as I am aware the specialist team has now fin-ished its work here."

Devastated

A pilot has died after his microlight crashed into power lines near Stour-

power lines near Stour-bridge.
His devastated family in Wollaston said the father of two had died 'doing what he loved to do'.

two had died 'doing what he loved to do'.

The crash wiped out power to properties in the surrounding area.

Emergency services were called to the scene by Barratt's Coppice, Bridgnorth Road, at around 6pm Police said his family would be supported by specially-trained officers.

Mr Tollerton's sister-in-law paid tribute to him on behalf of his family. She said: "He had been flying a number of years. He was a loving dad and husband.
"He absolutely doted on

his daughters, who are both teenagers.
"He was passionate about flying and he died doing what he loved to do."
Mr Needs said he was har-vestion potators, about

vesting potatoes about a half-a-mile away from the

half-a-mile away from the crash site.

He said the pilot circled around and hit the wires straight above where the aircraft crashed and called the emergency services and then his wife Vicky, a first aider, went to help the man.

She held his hand and told him help was on the way.

way.
Mr Needs added: "He had
used the field at least dozen
times. I know him as Microlight Andy. He's a lovely
chap and this was his
hobby."

Mervyn Counter, inspec-tor of air accidents (opera-tions) added: "We're at the early stages of the investiga-

tion. "We don't want to prejudge the outcome. We're building up a picture."

No-one else was involved in the incident, Staffordshire Police said.

shire Police said.

The ambulance service sent the hazardous area response team, while fire crews from Stourbridge and Kinver were called to the scene to help following the crash.



Wreckage – the scene of the fatal microlight crash after the aircraft hit pylons and came down in Stourton

by top council Tory|in graffiti rampage

A COUNCIL leader for Dudley has ruled out the prospect of doing any deals with the UK Independence Party.

The move comes after UKIP leader Nigel Farage said he would not stand in the way of his members doing deals with the Tories or Labour to run on a joint ticket if they share common views over a referendum on Europe.

Since then, opposition Conservative leader, Patrick Harley, said that the only way it could happen would be if UKIP pulled all its candidates out of seats held by the Tories, or where the Tories have a chance of winning, and did not oppose Dudley South MP Chris Kelly in 2015.

Despite Mr Kelly's record of supporting a referendum on Europe, however, UKIP is still determined to challenge him and put candidates in every seat.

UKIP pact ruled out £6,000 of damage

AROUND £6,000 of damage has been caused after graffiti was daubed in a street, a subway and even on a coach stuck in traffic by vandals. Two suspects have been arrested following the latest attack in Stourbridge.

Vandals caused another £4,000 worth of damage last month in an attack on homes and vehicles in Halesowen.

Marker pens were used to scrawl on walls in Worcester Street, and a subway in New Road, leading to Market Street, in Stourbridge town centre, was also covered in graffiti tags. Shocked passengers watched on as a coach caught up in traffic in Worcester Street was defaced with slogans in the incident last Friday.

Just before 2.30pm they arrested two men following a

Just before 2.30pm they arrested two men following a brief chase on foot. Any witnesses are asked to call 101.

AN EXTRA one million tourists have flocked to the Black Country top attractions, latest figures have revealed, bringing a welcome boost to jobs and the economy.

Leading attractions such as the Black Country Living Museum and Dudley Zoo have also helped swell foreign investment into the region. Visitor numbers went up by more than

went up by more than 840,000 to almost five million in 2012 – a 21 per cent growth in one year.

Civic leaders and business

bosses have since heralded the role attractions were playing in putting the Black Country on the map. Black Country Chamber

of Commerce vice chairman Ninder Johal said: "The Black Country has been known as a manufacturing area and not enough people realise it has some wonder ful attractions."

realise it has some wonderful attractions."

The region secured a 15 per cent rise in the number of new jobs created by foreign investors from 224 to 257 in 2012/13, according to statistics complied by the Regional Observatory, the research arm operated by Marketing Birmingham.

Researchers value the Black Country visitor economy at 2777.4 million in 2012 – an increase of six per cent since 2011.

Dudley Zoo has continued this positive trend into 2013 with a 17 per cent rise in visitor numbers between January and July.

Food tasting at hospital

A HOSPITAL is holding special tasting sessions with

special tasting sessions with patients in a drive to improve food after getting a low rating for its quality. Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley scored lower than the national average for 'food and hydration' in a new inspection.

In August, a national survey showed Russells Hall's food was rated among the worst in the country—with only 44 per cent of with only 44 per cent of patients saying they were happy with what they were served up.









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Have you got a story or an event you want covered? The Chronicle and the Express & Star have a team of reporters covering Halesowen who can help:

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Legend Keegan lends hospice a hand Joy after



FOOTBALL legend Kevin Keegan took time out to be guest speaker at a fundraising event in Dudley for Compton Hospice.

The Copthorne Hotel in Brierley Hill hosted An Evening with Kevin Keegan to raise money for the Wolverhampton hospice, which helps people with terminal illnesses.

And the two-time European And the two-time European Footballer of the Year award winner and ex-England and Newcastle United boss, said he was only too happy to help. He added: "This is a great cause. In these times a lot of charities are seeing their

cause. In these times a lot of charities are seeing their money cut back. They have got to work hard. "For families hospices like this are an unbelievable help in

price on them."
Fans bombarded him with

questions and Keegan backed Roy Hodgson to stick with Joe Hart as England's number one goalkeeper. Kevin said: "He has not con-

ceded a goal in his last two England games. If he had thrown one in for England, it



Hospital to investigate mystery superbug rise

DUDLEY health bosses are investigating a mystery rise in cases of a superbug infection among their patients which was double the

among their patients which was double the maximum number expected in a month. There were six cases of Clostridium Difficile (c.diff) at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital last month, double the target of no more than three. But all the affected patients were on different wards and were suffering from different types of c.diff, a bug which causes diarrhoea and can lead to lifethreatening inflammation of behaving like thuas

rhoea and can lead to life-threatening inflammation of the intestines.

Director of nursing Denise McMahon told a Dudley Group NHS Founda-tion Trust board meeting lat week: "it's not an outbreak and it is not cross-infection. "All occurred on different wards, so it hasn't passed from patient to patient."

"We sent all off for typing and all are different." A GROUP of men who used threatening behaviour and intimidated businesses have been given anti-social behaviour orders.

Following action by Sandwell Council's antisocial behaviour team, sup-ported by Sandwell Police, the orders were secured against Dana Khalid Jasim, against Dana Khalid Jasim, aged 21, of Walter Street, West Bromwich, Klinton Sulaj, aged 20, of Poplar Avenue, Tividale and Mahdi Duale, aged 19, of Rosedale Avenue, Smethwick.

The orders come after reports of the three causing persistent anti-social behave.

persistent anti-social behaviour in the area, including verbal abuse, threatening behaviour, drug possession and intimidation of business staff and their customers.

from patient to patient.

"We sent all off for typing
and all are different."
She added staff had 'gone
back with a vengeance' to
tackle c.diff, making sure
patients with the infection
were isolated quickly so it
could not spread.

But she said 80 per cent of
cases developed in the community before patients
arrived in hospital.

Within '72 hours of noticing the figure for the month
of September was so much
higher, a meeting was set up,
attended by doctors, nurses,
matrons and managers, to
decide what action needed to
be taken and to check that
systems for prescribing
antibiotics were being followed in the hospital.

In most healthy people,
the c.diff bacteria will not be
able to multiply in the gut
and they will not develop
disease. But in sick people,
antibiotics can disrupt the
balance in the gut.

The investigation at Russells Hall includes examining whether there are any
patterns to the cases that
might guide what action to
take. The order against Jasim lasts for two years, while the orders against Duale and Sulaj last for three.

All three are banned from All three are banned from entering a large area of the Soho and Victoria ward in Smethwick, which is bor-dered by Union Street, Soho Way, Grove Lane, Cape Hill, Waterloo Road, Bearwood Road, High Street. Duale is allowed in Rosedale Avenue. The three are also banned from associating with each

from associating with each other.

Shop plea for stock and staff



From left, Carole Blackmore, Amanda Bassett, Rebecca Cox, and Rebecca Stuckey

CHARITY shop staff have launched an urgent appeal for stock and volunteers following a drop in donations. The YMCA store in High Street, Dudley says it is struggling due to a rise in businesses buying second-hand clothes. It is hoping to raise awareness of the shop in a bid to encourage people to donate unwanted items. The shop is looking for stock including clothing, ornaments, books, CDs, DVDs, shoes, bags, furniture and small electrical items. Manager Amanda Bassett said:

"We don't really get many people bringing items in through the door so we are appealing for stock. A lot of people will sell their old clothes if they can get money for it because everyone is struggling at the moment."

The shop is also appealing for volunteers who can spare a few hours a week.
"It's a really friendly environment and a good way to meet new friends," she added. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact the shop on 0.1384 23.1714 or pop in to talk to staff and pick up a volunteer form.

revamp is

A FIVE-FIGURE revamp to replace heavy entrance doors to improve the quality of life for people living at a series of high rise flats blocks has been completed to the joy of campaigners.

People living in Tenbury House, Worcester House and Malvern House, in Halesowen, had mounted a three-year campaign for imp-

sowen, nad mounted a three-year campaign for imp-rovements at the blocks. Some elderly residents said their lives were being made a nightmare by being forced to struggle through the wooden doors with shop-ning

ping. Around £18,500 has been ping.
Around £18,500 has been spent on the replacement automatic doors which can be opened by residents with a key. Other improvement works are planned in the coming months including redecorating, installing new carpets and seating.

Belle Vale councillor Jill Nicholls, who campaigned for funding, said she was delighted the works have now taken place.

"The new communal from entrance doors have automatic opening which will be of huge benefit to the elderly, and people with disabilities," she said.
"I know the residents are

and people with disabilities," she said.
"I know the residents are delighted with this very much needed project, and I would like to thank Housing Management for their support."

Showcase of talents

MUSIC and dancing will take centre stage during a concert at a village hall.

The April Verch Band perform at Cookley Village Hall on Sunday. Awardwinning performer April will showcase her talents at fiddling, singing/songwriting and step-dancing.

Accompanying her is Hayes Griffin on guitar and Cody Walters on double bass and banjo. It is part of the Shindig Rural Touring Scheme which Wyre Forest council helps to fund.

Doors will open at 7pm, with the performance starting at 8pm. A bar, snacks and sweets will be available throughout the night.

The performance is open to adults and children aged 11 or older. Tickets, costing 48, are available on 07867 518978 or emailing cook leyvillagehall@gmail.com

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£3m to be spent on new fleet

MORE than £3 million will

MORE than £3 million will be invested in new buses next year as National Express West Midlands modernises its fleet.

Around 20 new vehicles will be added to the fleet based in West Bromwich to deal with the increasing number of passengers using local services.

The introduction of the modern fleet is part of a

modern fleet is part of a larger £17m investment by bosses as the bus operator aims to improve local bus

aims to improve local bus services.

Jack Kelly, spokesman for National Express West Midlands, said: "We are pleased to announce we plan to build on last year's £2 million investment into bus travei in Sandwell with around 20 new vehicles worth £3 million.

"The buses will arrive at our West Bromwich depot next year and are part of our regionwide £17 million investment program for

regionwide £17 million investment program for

investment program for 2014."
"We are also continuing our investment into a refurbishment programme that will help keep our existing buses at a high standard."
West Bromwich East MP Tom Watson has been the first to welcome the decision to invest in new buses for the borough.

More buses going green

DOZENS of 'green' buses are to be put on to the streets of the West Midlands under multi-million pound

It comes as part of a government scheme to either fund new buses or pay for the refitting of existing ones to clean up their exhaust

to clean up their exhaust fumes.

The plan will see 29 buses in the West Midlands given exhaust gas treatment.

exhaust gas treatment.
Transport minister
Norman Baker announced
the £3.4 million scheme to
provide 99 buses nationally.
He said: "This money will
improve air quality in towns
and cities across England."

Focus on rock band at Robin

LEGENDARY Dutch prog rockers Focus will appear at a leading Black Country music venue on Monday.

The band who had hits with Hocus Pocus and Sylvia, will be at the Robin 2 in Mount Pleasant, Bilston at 7.30pm. Tickets are £15 at 7.30pm. Tickets or £16 on the door.

New rules on lenders a step forward -

A DUDLEY MP who has been running a campaign against payday lenders has said rules which are due to be enforced are a big step forward.

Ian Austin has been running a campaign against payday lenders, particularly in Dudley High Street and now, companies who offer speedy loans at very high interest rates will be hit with tougher regulation in a bid to stop families getting into a spiral of

The new regulator for consumer credit, the Financial Conduct Authority, intends to limit to two, the number of times a payday loan can be rolled-over, ban misleading

adverts and impose compulsory affordability checks for all loan applicants. Martin Wheatley, the authority's chief executive wheatey, the authority schief executive said: "I am putting payday lenders on notice: Tougher regulation is coming and I expect them all to make changes so that consumers can get a fair outcome. The clock is ticking."

Afford

Mr Austin said: "This is a big step forward, it shows our campaign has had an impact and it should tackle some of the abuses, but I'll keep campaigning on this because I think we need limits to the overall

costs of credit and more government support for community banks like Dudley's Castle and Crystal who provide low-cost credit on terms people can afford."

ments they are allowed to collect after complaints that they are unexpectedly draining borrowers' bank accounts of cash.

Information on where to get free help

The growth of payday lenders, such as Wonga, QuickQuid and others, has become such a concern that Sandwell, Dudley and such a concern that Sandwell, Dudley and Wolverhampton councils have all blocked access to payday lending websites from computers in libraries or other public buildings. Staffordshire's libraries are not banning them as councillors say people should have 'freedom of choice'.

But from next April restrictions will be placed on the number of recurring pay-

with debts must be given to every borrower who rolls over a loan and 'clear risk warn-

ings' must be displayed on all adverts.

The FCA will take over regulation of consumer credit from the Office of Fair

Trading.
Russell Hamblin-Boone, chief executive Russell Hamblin-Boone, chief executive of the Consumer Finance Association, which represents many payday lenders, has warned that it could drive people to illegal loan sharks.

Car dealer aims to raise £260,000

A CAR dealership which nas a base in Dudley is on a mission to collect more than £260,000 for a cancer

Evans Halshaw is sup-porting Hope For Tomor-

row.

The dealership has sites in Wolverhampton, Stourbridge and Walsall.

Hope for Tomorrow works to ease some of the stresses and strains associated with receiving treatment for cancer.

The dealerships will now run fundraising events such as car washes and cake sales.

Father accused of murder attempt

A FATHER has appeared in court charged with the attempted murder of his

attempted murder of his son.
George Adam, aged 50, is accused of stabbing his 28-year-old son Shane 13 times in an attack in Pryor Road, Oldbury. George Adam, from Stourbridge Road, Hale-sowen anneared at

sowen, appeared at Sandwell Magistrates Court charged with attempted murder last

week.

He did not enter a plea
and was remanded in
custody until January 6.

Monthly car sales at a five-year high

MORE than 400,000 cars were sold in September – the biggest monthly total for more than five years – as West Midlands company Jaguar Land Rover said it had broken its own sales records. JLR, currently building

a new engine factory that will supply its soon-to-launch 'baby' Jaguar saloon, said its sales were up 13 per cent so far this

Nationally, cars sales figures were boosted by the latest September 63 regis-

Open weekend on waterways

ENTHUSIASTS will be descending on the water-ways to celebrate an annual open weekend this

month.

Dozens of narrowboats
will be at the Stourbridge
Navigation Trust open
weekend in the town.
They will line the Stourbridge Town Arm canal
near the Bonded Warehouse site, off Canal
Street.
This year's event takes
place on October 19 and
20 from 10am to 5pm.

Drug den near school shut own after locals complain

been closed down and boarded up, to the great relief of its neighbours and nearby busi-

nesses.

The property has been officially closed after magistrates granted a Crack House Closure Order. The building in Waggon Street, Cradley Heath, is near the Ormiston Forge Academy school, in Wrights Lane.

Police action came after sharp-eyed members of the public passed on information about suspected drug dealing the control of the police.

by Alex Homer unless they have the authority of the police.

dealing.

They also noticed there and people coming and going at all hours of the day and

at all hours of the day and night.

Andrew Burns, principal of the nearby school, said: "It's important to state that this issue has not impacted on the safety of our students.

"We take the safeguarding of students very seriously, he added.

Evidence

"We operate a closed site. Gates are controlled 24/7 and staff are on duty whenever students are travelling to and from school."

The evidence which prompted the court order was gathered after officers executed a series of drugs

warrants.
The order, which was granted by Sandwell Magistrates Court on September 16, makes it illegal for anybody to enter the address

the strey have the authority of the police.

All windows and doors at the property have now been boarded up and officers have placed large notices on the house explaining the

house explaining the reasons for its closure. Warren McCabe-Smith, who founded TeeT shirts in nearby Reddal Hill Road,

nearby Reddal Hill Road, welcomed police action.
He said: "It's a concern to think people like that were living nearby.
"It's definitely a good thing police have done something about it.
"Nobody wants something like that next to their house. You can't go around judging people who have got an addiction but when you feel scared, that's when feel scared, that's when something has got to be

A man who lives nearby but did not wish to be named out of fear of reprisals, said: "It's good that police try and clear the area up. They've clear the area up. They've got to sort things like this out properly.

Inquest on man starts

AN inquest has opened and ajourned on a suspected sex offender who was found dead following a police search after

one line will was soluted used to howing a poince search after he went missing with his shotgun.

Garry Foster, aged 53, of Linwood Road, Dudley, was found dead on the river bank at Grimley, near Claines, South Worcestershire. The inquest was opened last week at Worcestershire

Coroners Court, in Stourport. It was adjourned to await reports into the circumstances of Mr Foster's death.



Sarah Rose as Nancy and Steve Coussens as Bill Sykes get ready for Oliver!

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THE BEST **OF PETER** RHODES

"I'M a ginger so I'm 10 times more likely to make up a statistic." Comedian Shawn Hitchins, apologising for claiming, incorrectly, that a fifth of all the world's redheads live in Scotland. That's the problem with making claims based on statistics. You either do it boldly, confidently and with utter conviction or you do it, er, gin-

gerly.

IT WAS wrong of the Daily Mail to accuse Ed Miliband's Marxist father of hating Britain – especially when the only hard evidence came from a diary Ralph Miliband wrote when he was just 17. I shudder at the thought of being judged by anything I wrote at 17. To be damned by something your father wrote in his teens is grotesquely unfair.

AND yet, as Enoch Powell once observed, a politician complaining about the Press is like a ship's captain complaining about the sea. Politics is a dirry game but all the players are volunteers. The first rule is that once you sign up, people will want to know everything about you. Ed Miliband could be the next prime minister, leading a nuclear-armed nation of 60 million. He deserves exactly the same level of scrutiny as any other prime minister-in-waiting. In a perfect world a politician's dead parents would not be fair game. But remember the scorn, the sneering, the cartoons, the Spitting Image gags when the Left discovered to its glee that the Tory leader John Major was the son of a one-time circus performer? What's sauce for the Milibands.

IN THE week in which all eyes focused on the Marxist beliefs of Ed Miliband's father, the eternal battle between capitalism and socialism was spluttering in our universities. And not all the staff are happy about it. Plashing Vole, the excellent website run by Wolverhampton University lecturer. Aidan Byrne, reports on a ghastly David Brent-style "team. building" day risted on unispeny staff by the uni

excellent website run by Wölverhampton University lecturer Aidan Byrne, reports on a ghastly David Brent-style "team-building" day foisted on unhappy staff by the uni management. The worst bit, apparently, was not the enforced singing nor the obligatory coloured T-shirts, nor even the lecture or "positivity," but the Thatcherite banner which suddenly appeared on the lecture screen, urging them: "Be creative, grow the business, make money." Byrne observes despairingly: "This is the slogan of the estate agency or the boiler room, not a seat of learning."

THIS week it was announced that the British Army is

estate agency or the boller room, hot a seat of learning.

THIS week it was announced that the British Army is recruiting reservists who are IT experts to wage war in cyberspace. Without a shot being fired, a new generation of squaddies will slip hugely complex viruses into enemy computers, wrecking their infrastructure. Obviously, platoons of cyber-warriors will have to be organised into a new regiment. The Queen's Own Geeks?

A LITTLE sign in the window tells us our local butcher is to close. There has been a butcher's shop in those premises for more than a century. Now, it is making way for a patisserie. Across the road, our old bank has become a beauty parlour. It reflects a consumer society where tradi-

beauty parlour. It reflects a consumer society where tradi-tional food and personal service make way for a rather

beauty parious. Telericus a consumer society where adultional food and personal service make way for a rather pointless battle between cakes which threaten to make you fat and beauticians who promise to make you thin.

THE strangest complaint during the Fire Brigades Union strike was the firefighter moaning on Radio 4 that she had expected a 30-year career and it now looked like becoming a 40-year career and it now looked like becoming a 40-year career. Comrades, this is an outrage. Let us raise the scarlet banner high to fight the monstrous imposition of a job for life.

I WROTE a piece three years ago about a trip to the Somme to find the exact spot where my great-uncle, Private Alvin Smith, was killed, probably by friendly fire, in September 1916. For those interested, the video of the trip is now on the website of the Western Front Association at http://www.westernfrontassociation.com/video/3319-in-private-smiths-footsteps-.html

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in **your Express & Star**

Train service to Brum is being cut back Warning

ONE train an hour between Wolver-hampton and Birmingham is to be axed under a timetable shake-up at the end of the year.

of the year.
Virgin Trains is dropping services
that leave Wolverhampton around half
past the hour from December.
It is part of the company's annual
review of its timetables. The aim is to

improve services connecting London and Scotland by allowing more direct

The train that will be axed is one that goes from either Glasgow or Edinburgh to Birmingham, via Wolver-

Virgin Trains spokesman Richard

Stanton said: "We are merging our Euston to Wolverhampton with our Anglo-Scottish service.
"We're putting extra capacity and more seats on the trains north of Wolverhampton and vastly improving journeys in the north, although this does mean losing one train an hour.
"What this means is that more proplesserth of Birmingham and travel

people south of Birmingham can travel by train to the north west.

"Wolverhampton still has its direct services to London which go via Birm-ingham and leave at 45 minutes past the hour so there was only 10 minutes between them

Services between Wolverhampton

and Birmingham are also covered by operators such as London Midland.
Wolverhampton City Council's deputy leader, Councillor Peter Bilson, said he was disappointed. He said: "I can understand where they are coming from but it is nevertheless disappoint path at it's Wolverhampton losing a service." It comes as transport author to the country of the co

ity Centro is trying to get companies within the rail industry to back the rebuild of Wolverhampton rail station.

Meanwhile, council leaders are concerned over plans that would scrap the direct service between Wolverhampton, Sandwell and Dudley and London



as water company gripes fall

COMPLAINTS to water companies have fallen for the fifth year in a row, according to new figures.

according to new figures.
But a watchdog has
warned the companies they
face a backlash if they fail to
deliver value for money.
The Consumer Council for
Water (CCW) warned poor
performing water busi-

Water (CCW) warned poor performing water busi-nesses that they must close the gap with the rest of the industry.

Among the best perform-ers, however, were Severn Trent and South Staffs Water - both scored way above the national average of a 7.4 reduction in the of a 7.4 reduction in the number of written com-plaints from customers.

plaints from customers.

South Staffs had one of
the best results in the
country, with a 33.6 per cent
drop in the number of complaints, from 2,475 to just
1.643 plaints 1,643.

It provides water to large It provides water to large parts of the Black Country, including Walsall, Sandwell and Dudley, together with areas of Staffordshire including Lichfield and Cannock.

Sewage services for the area are provided by bigger neighbour Severn Trent.

neighbour Severn Trent.
Meanwhile Severn Trent,
which serves eight million
customers across central
England and Wales, the
number of complaints fell
from 20,706 to 17,858, a fall
of 13.8 per cent.

More bobbies to be on beat

MORE bobbies on the beat are promised across Wyre Forest as part of a new polic-ing policy, despite job losses and the closure of some stations.

Police Community Support Officers are to be support Onicers are to be given extra powers and have their hours extended so that they will be able to provide high visibility patrols on the streets of Kidderminster, Bewdley and Stourport later at night.

Walk-in health centre closure plans criticised

move services back to GP practices have come under fire amid fears not all surgeries could offer the necessary extended opening hours.

Health chiefs in Dudley have revealed proposals to shut the borough's walk-in centre based at Holly Hall Clinic, based in Stourbridge Road.

Clinic, based in Stourbridge Road.

Dudley North MP Ian
Austin has joined others in
demanding alternatives to
the clinic are analysed as a
12-week consultation gets
under way this week.
A series of consultation
sessions led by officials from
Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group will be held
across the borough in the
coming months.

by Andrew Turton
with the service at the walk
in centre.

"The reason a lot of peopl
use it is because they ofte
ran't get an appointment s
its more convenient."

Mr Austin added: "In th
modern era, when it is poss
to go the practice and the service at the walk
in centre.

The reason alot of peopl
use it is because they ofte
ran't get an appointment s
its more convenient."

Mr Austin added: "In th
modern era, when it is poss

across the borough in the coming months.
Dudley Council's health scrutiny committee chairman Councillor Susan Ridney says she is concerned what help will be in place for patients if the centre closes.
"The one thing we most wish to see is a consistency of service across GP practices in the borough because the big question is will they all be able to offer the services and have extended hours for example," she said.
"It would be fine for some of the larger practices to

"It would be fine for some of the larger practices to provide this but I'm not sure whether that could happen at smaller individual surgeries. When speaking to constituents they have always said how happy they were

with the service at the walk-in centre. "The reason a lot of people

"The reason a lot of people use it is because they often ring their GP practice and can't get an appointment so it is more convenient."

Mr Austin added: "In the

Mr Austin added: "In the modern era, when it is possi-ble to go shopping at all hours and access all sorts of other services in the evening and at weekends, I don't see why GPs should not provide a service to people who go out to work and pay the taxes that keeps the NHS running at a time that suits them."

them."
Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group has a £1.4 million contract with health million contract with health care firm Primecare to run the Stourbridge Road centre, which opened in 2009. But bosses say this cash may be better spent allowing people to see their own GPs.

People can have their say by visiting www.dudley-ccg.nhs.uk/urgent-care

Apples in stores at last

ENGLISH apples are finally arriving on supermarket shelves making the crop the latest they have been for a generation. The fruit has been delayed by more than three weeks due to the long cold spring and late arrival of summer, which reduced the quantity of apples as well as their size, English Apples and Pears said. According to the trade association, the crop has not been this late since 1985. But one of the warmest summers on record contributed to good sugar levels and a crunchy texture.

Choir teams up with quartet



Front, Rosemary Phillips and Cedric Smith with, from left, Eric Asbury, Sheila Crofts, Jan Clements and Ron Clements from Viva Musica Choir

A DUDLEY choir will be joined by a top classical quartet when they perform at the Town Hall on Sunday. Viva Musica will hold its annual concert

at the venue and the group has invited Amore to perform on the same night.

Amore to periorm on the same night.

The quartet was watched by millions of people last year as they performed for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations at the Thames River pageant.

Earlier this year they performed the traditional FA Cup Final hymn Abide with Me at Wamblay Stadium

at Wembley Stadium.

at Wembley Stadium.

They were also due to sing at Clyde Auditorium in Glasgow with other guests, such as Talia Storm and Susan Boyle, for the Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice 30th Anniversary Variety Performance.

Secretary of Viva Musica, Sheila Crofts,

from Halesowen, said: "We are pleased to get such a well-known group to come along and perform with us, it should be an enter-

taining evening."
Dudley's Viva Musica was launched 24 Dudley's Viva Musica was launched 24 years ago and has about 70 members. Open days are held annually to invite new members. The group performs at about seven concerts a year, raising money for a chosen charity.

Last year, more than £1,000 was raised for Mary Stevens Hospice. This year, the group is raising cash for the Midland Air ambulance.

Mrs Crofts said: "We are a group which does everything – from Beethoven to Beatles. We like to think there is something for everyone." Tickets are available from www.dudley.gov.uk/entertainment or Dudley Council Plus, Castle Street, Dudley.

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NEWS

AROUND £500 has been donated to a men's cancer charity to help pay for a mobile clinic to raise aware-

ness.
Staff at the PerfectHome store in Dudley's Churchill shopping centre dug deep to bring in hundreds of pounds for the Balls to Cancer

bring in hundreds of pounds for the Balls to Cancer charity.

The charity, which is based in Dudley, has organised events aiming to bring in cash to raise awareness of cancer in men.

The clinic will be travelling to charity events and football grounds around the country encouraging men to pluck up the courage to see the on-site doctor.

Mark Bates, from Coseley, founded Balls to Cancer in 2011 following the death of his father Geoff in 1994.

He thanked the store, adding: "The potential for the travelling clinic to save lives and fight cancer is massive, and the donation is a big help."

Store assistant manager Martyn Richards, who nominated the charity, wants to raise an extra £500.

Group sees profits fall

ONE of the UK's biggest private property groups, based in Kingswinford, has seen profits fall over the last year after a drop in rental income from its industrial and retail sites across the UK and Europe.

London & Cambridge Properties, on the Pensnett Fetto, which it owns earn

Estate, which it owns, saw turnover rise by just above £1 million to £88.2 million in

£1 million to £88.2 million in the year to the end of March.
But LCP's underlying pretax profit was down by £4.5 million, to £36.8 million. In its report the company said this was partly due to a £2.39 million drop in rental income, £480,000 in additional refurbishment spending, costs and increased ing, costs and increased overheads of £600,000.

500 trying for 50 spots

MORE than 500 people applied for 50 police community support officer roles with West Midlands Police. Hundreds of applications flooded in in just over a week. Police bosses issued another call for applicants as the deadline approached. Pcsos are needed to join policing teams in areas

policing teams in areas including Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

A MULTI-MILLION project to renovate historic buildings and boost trade has been praised by experts during a fact-finding

tour.

Delegates from the Royal Town Planning
Institute visited Dudley town centrelast
week to look at work being carried out under
the Townscape Heritage Initiative.
Completed projects under the scheme
include the Crown Pub, Wolverhampton
Street, Baylies Hall, Tower Street, and
buildings in High Street and Stone Street.
The delegates also heard about plans for

The delegates also heard about plans for

to the town centre. President of the Royal

to the town centre. President of the Royal Town Planning Peter Geraghty said: "I really enjoyed my tour around Dudley to see first hand the enthusiasm and commitment of all the people involved."

The delegates were joined by Dudley Council officers who talked about the achievements of the project and key aims. The project has included external repairs to building, bringing vacant sites back into use and repairs to historic features across the town. Dudley councillor Judy Foster said: "I am delighted our Townscape Heritage Iniam delighted our Townscape Heritage Ini-

Store gives a boost to preserve history of town aid charity Experts praise scheme to preserve history of town problems of losing sight problems of losing sight

AN AWARENESS event is planned to give people an insight into living with sight loss today (Thursday).

Thomas Pocklington Trust, Stourbridge is working with Kingswinford and Stourbridge Lions and the Dudley Vision support team for the event.

The public will have the chance to be blindfolded and guided to allow them to experience what it is like to be blind or partially sighted.

experience what it is like to be blind or par-tially sighted.

The event falls on World Sight Day, which aims to raise awareness of preventable sight loss across the world. They will host the

information event in Stourbridge's Ryemar-ket Shopping Centre between 10am and 4pm.

Ann Evett, development manager at the Ann Evett, development manager at trust's resource centre, on Hagley Road, Oldswinford, said: "The whole point of World Sight Day is to raise awareness of blindness and vision impairment as well as to help support people with those conditions."

Thomas Pocklington Trust is a charity which aims to improve the quality of life for people with sight loss. It is a national charity with its resource centre in Oldswinford.

in brief Museum appeal for war artefacts

A MUSEUM is appealing for people to loan First World War artefacts as part of a four-year exhibi-tion.

tion.

Dudley Museum wants
to show the impact of the
war on local communities,
and is particularly interested in pictures, clothing,
souvenirs and stories of
people from the area who
experienced the conflict.

xperienced the conflict. Staff want to host an Staff want to host an exhibition from August 2014 until November 2018, echoing the timescale of the war. Artefacts of all kinds are needed, especially those with a family history. To get involved or for further information contact Adrian Durkin on 01384 815573.

Students handed £1,000 assistance

E1,000 assistance
FOUR students have
received a £1,000 scholarship from the University
of Worcester to assist
them with their course.
Halesowen College students Gail Nicholls, Jenny
Moore, Emily Williams
and Emma Hardman are
all studying a foundation
degree in early years.
The scholarship was
given to the four for their
high achievement on the
course.

Traders claiming bollards victory

TRADERS have declared victory in their campaign to have plastic bollards removed from outside their premises in Dudley.

Owners said the barri-

owners sand the barriers were harming trade in Wolverhampton Street.
Dudley Council said the barriers were put in due to motorists using blue badges to park on double yellow lines.

Computer shop nets web award

INDEPENDENT family run computer shop Colley Gate Computers has won an award at the inaugural ShopTalk National IT Reseller Awards.

The awards were open to all independent IT resellers in the UK. The shop in Windmill Hill, Cradley, won best website.

Graduates show

UNIVERSITY of Wolver-hampton graduates will show their work at the Public Art Gallery, New Street, West Bromwich, from October 13 to 20. The show is open 10am to 4.30pm on Mondays to Saturdays and 11am to 3pm on Sundays.

Camcorder to spearhead a crackdown on reserve yobs

beauty spot in Dudley has been launched by wardens who hope to catch troublemakers in

They will be able to capture any problems at Saltwells Nature Reserve in Netherton on camera after receiving funding for a camcorder.

The site often suffers from people causing a nuisance such as criminal damage and groups of youngsters con-

gregating.
There have also been problems in the past with off-road bikes being ridden illegally and dangerously around the paths at the

reserve.
Police officers from the Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood neighbourhood team successfully applied for £300 from the Dudley Council Community Forum to purchase the camera for the wardens.

Criminal

They will now be able to film and take pictures of criminal activity.

The footage will then be used to help police with sub-

sequent investigations.

Pcso Nicholas Woods of the Quarry Bank and the Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood policing team said: "The reserve is often

by Heather Large

subject to criminal damage with groups of youngsters congregating.
"In the past off-road bikers have used the park to ride bikes illegally and dan-gerously.

gerously. "The

camcorder will allow us to assess the type and scale of criminal damage and anti-social behaviour that is taking

behaviour that is complace in the area.

"We work really closely with the wardens at Saltwells Nature Reserve.

"I would also ask

"I would also ask members of the public to report incidents of criminal damage and anti-social behaviour to local police or to the Saltwells wardens."

The site has also suffered fluctioning the salts of the salts

fly-tipping.

In April around 20 shopping trolleys were left strewn around the 247-acre reserve, prompting anger from ward councillors.

Call for recruits at centre

A newly-launched call centre company in the Black Country is looking to recruit 80 people by the end of this year – with an extra 130 new workers wanted for next

year.

Neo Strategies was set up following a request by Sussexbased firm Chilly Warranty Shop, which repairs electrical appliances, to open a call centre in the West Midlands.

The new company is based in Link House in Birmingham Street in Halesowen.

Despite already employing 70 staff, company manager Janice Ainsworth said she was on the lookout for 80 more.

Stars Shore get a very warm welcome

THEY were almost 200 miles from home and the set of the show which has made them famous but two stars of Geordie Shore two stars of Geordie Shore delighted thousands of fans on a

visit to the Black Country.
Celebrity Big Brother winner Charlotte Crosby appeared at Brierley
Hill's Merry Hill Centre with fellow Geordie Shore cast member James

The pair appeared at the shopping

The pair appeared at the shopping centre's student lock-in event. X Factor finalists boyband The Risk performed for the crowds which gathered for the Geordie Shore pair's arrival. Budding dancer Kieron Higgs, a student at Dudley College who will be trying out Britain's Got Talent auditions, also performed.

The reality stars arrived shortly afterwards and invited eager fans, Wolverhampton cousins Jodie Lawrence and Natasha Raynal, went on to stage to meet them on to stage to meet them.

Watchful

Celebrity Big Brother winner Char-lotte said she always felt humbled to meet such a number of fans. The 23-year-old added she had been

The 23-year-old added she had been re-adjusting to normal life after leaving the watchful eye of the Big Brother House. She added: "I'm proud of myself for adjusting ok. I feel a bit more human again."

Co-star James added: "I still feel like it's crazy so many people watch the show. We didn't think we'd get around to all our fans but we managed to in the end."

Kimberley Ash, a 17-year-old Walsall College beauty therapy student, of Reedly Road, Willenhall, had a photo taken with the stars.

She said: "I waited for three hours

She said: "I waited for three hours but it was worth it. I was shaking when I met them."

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James Tindale and Charlotte Crosby chat with fan Kimberley Ash, aged 17



Youngsters gueue up to meet their heroes in the Geordie Shore student lock-in

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NEWS



HOW our times are changing According to a major toy retailer, this year's must-have is a talking doll based on the Disney cartoon show Sofia The

Apparently, this is the story of a seven-year-old girl who has to adapt to life as a princess after mother marries King Roland.

Time was when little girls dreamt of marrying a handsome prince. Now, if the modern fairytales are anything to go by, they let their single mothers do it for

BIRMINGHAM is officially the BIRMINGHAM is officially the youngest city in Europe, with under-25s accounting for almost 40 per cent of the population, proudly declares the funky-monkey, too-cool-forschool youth charity Envision.

Or, to put it another way, Brummies don't live very long.

SO that's the end of the party conference season for anothe conference season for another year. We now know that the Tories are in favour of 'hard-working families', that Labour thinks it's a good idea to get young people into work, and that the Liberal Democrats... sorry, I lost you there for a moment, didn't I?

One of these days symptody.

One of these days somebody will stand up at one of these conferences and really put their neck on the line, declaring unequivocal support for people who can't be bothered to get up who can't be bothered to get up in the morning, and saying they think youth unemployment is a really good idea. But I guess until then, we will just have to resign ourselves to the fact that our politicians can only speak in

platitudes.
But the one striking thing about this year's conference season is how short the confer-

ences have become.

As recently as the 1990s, the party conferences ran from Sunday to Friday, then more recently they started knocking off on Thursday. This year they were all done-and-dusted by Wednesday. Why is this? Have they run out

why is this? Have they run out of things to say? Or, in this age of environmental awareness, have they decided that they had better keep an eye on the amount of hot air they produce?

Of course we shouldn't com plain. I doubt if there are that many people around the country who look at their television listings and think, 'you know what, I would really like to hear a bit more from Harriet Harman'.

But wouldn't you think, given that our politicians are all sup-posed to be big on 'hardwork-ing families', that they could at least stretch it until the end of





The tobacconist shop that later became Chapmans Electrical



A bright idea to find the oldest appliance

LOUISE JEW meets a man who is hoping to preserve the past of electrical goods which are part of his firm's history

IT WAS a shocking feeling when Robert Chapman realised that a workman had tossed a curious bendy-shaped piece of metal, about 18 inches long, into a skip, which had been carted away never to be seen again.

The original use of that object was even more terrifyingly unbelievable – it was a 1920s electrical element that people would actually have dangled on a thick piece of cable, attached to the mains, straight into a tin bath to heat up the water

water.

But the loss of such a fascinating piece of domestic history at Chapmans Electrical in Cradley Heath – as well as vacuum cleaners from the 1920s – during a refit some years ago, was never to be repeated.

Displaying

So, as the 87-year-old company founded by Robert's father, Ewart, goes through its current £120,000 showroom revamp, everyone is under orders to preserve the old appliances hidden around in cupboards and corners of store rooms of tellerotte.

And there are lots of them – 50 or And there are lots of them - 50 or more, some of which are now at Robert's home in Bobbington, near Stourbridge, for safe keeping.

Then 67-year-old Robert had a light bulb moment.

As well as displaying some of the antique goods, including post war radios and TVs, when the refurbishment is completed, why not start the hunt for the



Sound and vision blast from the past – Robert Chapman and some of the collection of old electrical appliances at his shop in Cradley Heath

oldest working domestic electrical appliance in the Black Country?

appliance in the Black Country?
And Chapmans is offering as a prize the latest equivalent model for free—whether it is an electrical hand mixer, hairdryer, fridge, freezer, cooker, cleaner, TV or radio.
"In a nod to our near 90 years in the business we thought it would be fun to find the oldest working electrical appliance," said Robert, managing director of the company, based in Reddal Hill Road.
"Although we have customers all

"Although we have customers all "Although we have customers all over the country we are very much part of the local community and so we're searching for the oldest appliance in the Black Country.
"It just has to be electrical and still in use." Electricity runs in the veins of Robert, his older brother Arthur, aged 75, and sister Mary Green, 70, all of whem followed their fother into the

whom followed their father into the family business

They were brought up in a house in Reddal Hill Road, which the Chapmans

showroom later spread into.

Arthur worked for their father, Mary

Arthur worked for their father, Mary is now the company secretary and Robert started there nas a trainee TV and electronics engineer in 1962. Ewart Chapman first opened his store, in partnership with Tim Coley, in 'Mr Marsh' the tobacconist's old shop and the business, then called A E Chapman & Co, later sprawled into the neighbouring Victorian pub, the Travellers Rest.

Samples

Ewart had been a keen artist but, after hearing nothing when he sent samples of his work to a top London art school, his father, Arthur, told him: "Electrics is the thing of the future."

So Ewart became an electrical apprentice at Holt Williams in Cradley Heath, progressing on to Hingley's, the



Ewart Chapman, who was the founder of Chapmans Electrical Store

Netherton company that made the anchor for the ill-fated Titanic liner.

anchor for the ill-fated Titanic liner.

Over the years, the business has had to
'reinvent' itself time and again as new
electrical inventions came to the fore.

Mary, who lives in Wall Heath, sali: "It's
gone through gas lights to electricity,
then through radios and accumulators
through the war and then to lighting and
at one point we even sold Capo di Monte
figures."

figures."
But the business, which now employs

45 people, never forgets its roots.
"We offer a repair service and some of the team here actually work on fairly old the team here actually work on tarry old vacuum cleaners and washing machines, and one is lovingly keeping an ancient video recorder going," said Robert.

"I'm fascinated by old appliances – but too many of them have gone to landfill over the years."

Do you have an appliance that

could be the oldest in the Black Country? Call 01384 566497

THROUGH THE YEARS

NEIL Kinnock was announced as the Labour Party's new leader, succeeding Michael Foot. The 41-year-old was the youngest Labour leader since Ramsay McDonald. Roy Hattersley, who had haen a rival for the leaderhad been a rival for the leader ship, was elected as his deputy.

RETIRED research scientist RETIRED research scientist Cyril Knight won a reduction on his rates – by playing bingo. The 68-year-old was challenging the rateable value of his property in Codsall, which was calculated by how much it was expected to fetch in rent. "I didn't know how much reduction to go for, so I drew out a bingo number and came up with the figure of £25, which they agreed," he said.

LARRY Grayson was heading to ITV to present a new game show. He was following in the footsteps of his Generation Game predecessor Bruce Forsyth, who had quit the show to move to ITV.

1993...

HOME Secretary Michael Howard announced 27 new measures in one of the toughest crackdowns on crime in modern crackdowns on crime in modern times. His proposals included ending a suspect's right to silence, creating a national system of genetic fingerprinting for all crimes, and building six new prisons.

GEORGE Cole was hanging up his camel-hair coat after 14 years playing loveable rogue Arthur Daley in the hit series Minder.

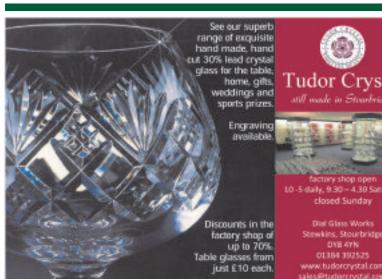
D-DAY hero John Howard walked along Pegasus Bridge in Normandy for the last time before it was dismantled so the before it was dismantled so the canal could be widened. Major Howard won the DSO for his part in the assault in which he, along with 180 other soldiers, captured the bridge across the Orne Canal during the Second World War.

2003...

POSTAL workers walked out of Wolverhampton's sorting centre in protest against plans to open another mail operation in the city to ease the Christmas workload. Staff feared overtime working hours would be cut. The men returned to work after an hour following talks.

BODY panels for the world-famous black taxis would be made in the Midlands, it was revealed. Wednesfield-based Automotive Service Centre won the contract to make the panels, securing 450 jobs.

RIO Ferdinand was dropped from the England squad after failing to turn up for a drug test. The Football Association decided to drop the Manchester United defender for the weekend's crucial Euro 2004 qualifier against Turkey. Ferdinand, said he had never taken drugs.





Find an alternative to deal with waste

IN response to Peter Thompson's field site has been halted because the Council block on plans to build a recycling centre and energy regeneration unit in Brierley Hill, I am in agreement with some, but not all of his remarks. It makes sense to find other ways to deal with our waste rather than continue to use landfill which is a finite resource. However, this needs to be achieved without the consequence of regeneration and recycling plants blighting local sites which would be the case if Clear and Power were allowed to proceed. The construction of housing on this brown-

Slap fines on

those spitting
AT LONG last a council have seen sense and made spitting in the street illegal.
Waltham Forest council, East London have taken two people to court for this disgusting habit.
Two spitters were ordered

gusting habit.

Two spitters were ordered to pay £600 each. I hope other councils will now follow suit. This, like phoning while driving and dog fouling will be hard to police, but fine a few £600, and perhaps the message will get through. It may be coincidence, but TB is now back since this dirty habit back since this dirty habit has become common I have noticed that school

1 maye noticed that school girls are one of the biggest offenders, probably to show equality with the boys. NORMAN D CADDICK Upper Ettingshall Road Coseley

It's hard to bear-d

WHY do so many men, of all ages, favour growth of hair from the mouth down to their necks. Even Jeremy Paxman has grey 'fungus' and in my opinion it has put 20 years on him. Many are like a lot of sheep following this foolish trend this foolish trend
L SHELDON
Dudley

to the Editor

POST

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@ expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Blood boils due to delays when giving

RE: ROB Edwards' letter on the wait experienced when attending blood donor sessions, unfortunately the delays he experienced do not apply to walk in donors only. As I work full time I used to make use of the appointment

As I work full time I used to make use of the appointment service offered by the Blood Transfusion Service although this was a pointless exercise as appointments regularly ran 30 to 40 minutes late. After complaining about the wait, the staff were most apologetic and explained the reason was the "powers that be" book beds to 110 per cent capacity, so it's hardly rocket science to understand the queues by 6pm if everyone has turned up for their appointments.

everyone has turned up for their appointments. I contacted the regional office regarding the delays experienced at the Stourbridge sessions and again they were most apologetic and also said others had complained about the delays but he was powerless to improve the situation. As a donor of more than 30 years and having made the equivalent of 100+ donations I think it's a disgrace the BTS think it acceptable to treat donors with scant disregard. It was with much regret that I removed my name from the donor register. I am amzed the BTS is still advertising for more donors – perhaps it should concentrate on looking after its existing donors before disillusioning new ones.

fter its existing donors before disillusioning new ones.

PAUL OAKLEY, Kingswinford

Politicians to blame for strike action

I REALISE the teaching strike inconvenienced many parents and youngsters.

parents and youngsters.
It's a shame it had to take place, but I, and I'm sure many others, understand such action is not taken lightly. Indeed, no teacher would want to disrupt the education of pupils.
The fault for such damage in schools lies fairly and squarely on the little shoulders of Michael Gove.
The Education Secretary is out to worsen teachers'

is out to worsen teachers pay and conditions and dismantle national pay bar-gaining. He wants to alter pensions to the detriment of

pensions to the detriment of teachers and wants them to work longer!

Meanwhile, MPs look to increase their salary by 11 per cent and their pension is bountiful.

In a cabinet in which 23 of the 29 are millionaires – according to The Daily Mail's in May – the stench of hypocrisy is at times overwhelming.

helming. C STOLL Brier Mill Road Halesowen



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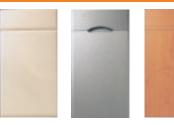
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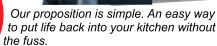








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1st West Bromwich Brownies seen in the 1960s, Brenda atten. now Moore. now a leader herself is pictured back left



First Brown Owl, Dorothy Wallett, on the right, is pictured cutting a cake on the 50th anniversary



Stacey Hampson, current Brown Owl, with members from the 1940s, Brenda Moore and Jean Saunders

Brownies celebrate 70 years of 1st West Bromwich pack

on adventurous camping trips and even promise to uphold a modern set

of values.
Yet girls from the 1st West Bromwich Brownies group were whisked back in time as they met with members over the ages to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the group.
Memories and photographs are being collected by the group's current leaders to tell the story of the generations of children who have helped to make it a success.

Church

The 1st West Bromwich group meet each week at the Wesley Church, in West Bromwich High Street, where they were formed by Dorothy Wallett in 1943.

Two founding members are among those who can still remember back to learning to sew and how to tie a neckerchief in the midst of the Second how to tie a necker chief..... World War. Friends Brenda Moore and Jean Spencer

joined the pack when they were aged around seven led by Miss Wallett who was also their teacher at Spon Lane School, in West Bromwich. Mrs Moore, now aged 77, and who originally lived in West Bromwich but now lives in Great Barr, said: "It is lovely to think it has lasted this many years and is still going strong. I can't believe that 70 years have passed since we first joined."

believe that 70 years have passed since we first joined."

Around 20 girls were part of the group in those days with Miss Wallett as the group's leader, known as Brown Owl. Subs in those days were a penny a week and uniforms were brown dresses with a necker tie which they had to learn to fold.

Mrs Spencer, who has two children and one grand-daughter, said: "We used to meet in the guild room in the old church but we did use the same room that they use today too."

Both spent four years with the Brownies before moving up to the Girl Guides.

Mrs Moore eventually became one of the group's leaders as it stayed after the church was re-built in the 1970s.

"We still have our links and keep in the loop

with everything," added Mrs Moore, who went on to to run her own Brownie group at Grove Vale Primary School, in Great Barr.

Mrs Spencer's daughter Sue also ran a group at Charlemont Methodist Church.

The two friends are now part of the Trefoil guiding guild which meets each month at the church in Charlemont and will reach its 60th anniversary next year. Both say they are full of pride as the group is still flourishing under the group's current Brown Owl Stacey Hampson, who lives in the Lapel area of Halesowen and helped organise a gathering of past members recently.

helped organise a gathering of past members recently.
Youngsters now wear bright jumpers and caps, go on regular trips to camps at Beaudesert on Cannock Chase and have recently learned the new modern Brownie promise.

The 31-year-old, who works in an accounting department for a firm in Cannock, hopes her new-born daughter Freya will maybe one day don the uniform too.

Anyone who wants to find out more about the group or former members can call 07929 839900.



Celebrating – Ruth Keeling, aged eight, Jean Saunders, 77, a member in the 1940s, and Emily Randle, nine, with leaders and other members

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Towns' plans get go-ahead

Stourbridge and Halesowen Area Action

ensuring sufficient homes, shops, educa-tional and recreational facilities are created. Priorities include creating homes in disused shops or office units in both towns

and boosting investment. plans were adopted at a full meeting of Dudley Council which took place on Monday night.

The schemes set out how both town centres will be transformed up until 2026

and noosting investment. Councillor Ken Turner said he was pleased both plans were being adopted after being in the pipeline for some time. But he can be provided to get the most out of both schemes.

Teeth are sprouting nicely



Sprout the orang utan eventually opens wide to show off her 22 teeth to mother Jazz

A YOUNG Bornean orang utan turned into a right little monkey when asked to 'open wide' so zoo keepers could count her teeth. It ended up taking four keepers at Dudley Zoo to carry out the task – bribing the two-year-old ape, named Sprout, with her favourite grape treats.

favourite grape treats.

ravourite grape treats.

Eventually they managed to persuade her
to show off her 'pearly whites', and she does
so proudly in front of her mother Jazz.

The job in hand was to count her teeth as
part of an international research project at
the Black Country zoo. The zoo's upper primates section leader Pat Stevens said: "We

were asked to take part in the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums (BIAZA) captive orang utan tooth emer-gence project. Unlike dad Jorong, who will-

ingly opens his mouth on command, Sprout wasn't too keen on the idea and had to be bribed. It was a real team effort to count Sprout's teeth," Pat said. "It took four keepers, each counting a different section of her mouth at the same time, as well as taking a lot of grapes to coax her."

Sprout has 22 teeth, so has quite a few more to come through until she has the full set of 32, the same as humans, she added.

She said: "As soon as we finished counting he opened her mouth as wide as she could-she really can be a cheeky monkey."

Sprout was born at the zoo, based on

sne reany can be a cheeky monkey."
Sprout was born at the zoo, based on
Castle Hill, two years ago. After birth, the
baby orang utan was kept in a quiet private
chamber away from the public, until mother
Jazz was ready to show her off to visitors.

Taxi passenger hit car with cue

MP demands answers over Russells Hall

THE MP for Halesowen & Rowley Regis is calling for answers to problems at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital following a report released under the Freedom of Information Act.

The demand came from MP James Morris after it was revealed, pre-election, the last Government covered up problems at a failing hospital in Essex.

Internal emails from the Care Quality Commission (CQC), released under the Freedom of Information Act show that the previous government told the watchdog to suppress information to the public about failings at Basildon University Hospital.

Mr Morris said that he had similar concerns about the NHS Trust that runs Russells Hall Hospital, where mortality-rate indicators rose

runs Russells Hall Hospital, where mortality-rate indicators rose between 2008 and 2011, and said people had a right to know.

"If Labour ministers were putting pressure on the health watchdog to suppress a damning official report into this hospital then people are bound to ask whether the last Government also incored and covered up convent also incored and covered up conment also ignored and covered up con-cerns about rising mortality rates at Russells Hall," said Mr Morris.

driver and damaged his vehicle with a pool cue has been spared an immedi-

driver and damaged his vehicle with a pool cue has been spared an immediate jail sentence.

Joshua Fletcher had been drinking heavily with his girlfriend on a night out in Sandwell before getting into a fight with a taxi driver over the cost of a journey, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard last week.

Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting, told the court on August 17 the fight was with a Warley Cars driver outside his Rowley Regis home. But it was after this fight ended, and the driver had left that Fletcher went into his home for the pool cue.

Mr Searle said Fletcher phoned the taxi company and asked for a taxi – he expected the same driver to return. A different driver arrived: "He got into the vehicle, and was immediately abusive to the driver. He demanded to know who the other driver was and what he was doing."

The court heard that the driver got out of the car as did Fletcher, who took out the pool cue which was inside his trousers. Mr Searle said: "He then started swinging the pool cue at the taxi, causing damage. In fact it was £400 worth of damage."

The court heard the driver jumped back in the taxi and drove further up the road, but Fletcher chased after him. The taxi driver then drove away to escape. Fletcher, aged 19, of Duke Street pleaded guilty to being in possession of an offensive weapon, damaging property and using threatening language and behaviour.

Mr Malcolm Fowler, defending, said: "It is a disturbing and shocking fall from grace, and alcohol played a role in this."

turbing and shocking fall from grace, and alcohol played a role in this.

He was sentenced to eight months in a young offenders institution, suspended for 18 months

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Father jailed for robbing younger man in toilets

Banking on helping families



From left, student Jessica Sutton, student governor Darryll Garland, Refresh volunteer Sadie Holness, student union president Kelly Russell. and Hannah Brindley with some of the food which has been donated

The first donations have now been handed in to the bank's collection centre at Refresh, The Broadway,

COLLEGE students have donated food to a foodbank which helps people struggling to make ends meet.

Youngsters from Dudley College have been collecting goods for the Black Country Foodbank for the past month.

The first donations have pow been.

They plan is to continue collecting for the charity and to gather enough food to help 100 local families.

younger man in a bar, waiting until they were alone in the toilet before robbing him of £20, a court heard.

Neard.

Stefan Dudley pushed his much younger victim into a toilet cubicle in the River Rooms, Mill Race Lane, near Stourbridge town centre.

The 42-year-old was sentenced to three

The 42-year-old was sentenced to three years in prison for the robbery. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard Dudley had followed his victim into the toilet twice before during the same night, on September 18 last year.

Shortly after midnight the victim – who was a 'slightly built young man' – was at the sink when Dudley walked over to him.

When Dudley found they were alone he grabbed the man's mobile phone and then grabbed him round the neck, the court was told.

The victim was then pushed inside a toilet

was told.

The victim was then pushed inside a toilet cubicle and Dudley demanded his wallet. Dudley stole £20 but when challenged outside he denied it and threatened to kill his victim if he repeated the claim.

Alcohol

Alcohol

After being arrested Dudley pleaded not guilty to robbery but was later found guilty after a trial.

Mr Michael Aspinall, defending, said alcohol and drugs had affected him.

Mr Aspinal said: "No injury was caused to the victim and no weapon was produced. It was an opportunistic offence. He has a long record of offending but nothing of this seriousness. This is an escalation for him. It is not part of his offending history. When he is sober and not on drugs he can be productive and a good father." and a good father."
Dudley, of High Street, Lye, was jailed for

three year years. The judge, Recorder Barry Berlin, told him: "I am satisfied if he hadn't taken his wallet out you would have seri-ously assaulted him. You threatened to kill





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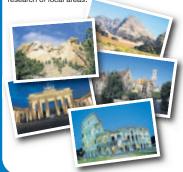


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UKIP deals ruled out by leaders of councils across the Black Country

Black Country have ruled out the prospect of doing any deals with

the UK Independence Party.
It comes after UKIP leader Nigel
Farage said he would not stand in the way of his members doing deals with the Tories or Labour to run on a 'joint ticket' if they share common views over a referendum on Europe.

However, the opposition Conservative leader on Dudley Council, Patrick Harley, has said that the only way it could happen would be if UKIP pulled all its candidates

Tories have a chance of winning, and did not oppose Dudley South MP Chris Kelly in 2015.

Supporting

Such a deal would see UKIP only standing in safe Labour seats the Tories believe they

in safe Labour seats the Tories believe they have no chance of winning.

Despite Mr Kelly's record of supporting a referendum on Europe, however, UKIP is still determined to challenge him and put candidates in every seat.

Councillor Harley said: "We have a Prime Minister who has offered the first referendum on Europe in many people's lifetimes.

glow is starting to fade as their policies are being scrutinised by the media. I'm really not into the idea of pacts. My local MP Chris Kelly is one of the most Eurosceptic Conser-vatives but UKIP are still prepared to chal-

"The only way I'd ever consider a pact is if they said they would not stand against Conservatives with a good record on

Europe."
UKIP's spokesman in Dudley, Bill Etheridge, said there was no chance of it happening. "We will under no circumstances do any deals with other parties in this area," he said. UKIP having come second to Labour in a recent by-election in Blakenhall.

recent by-election in Blakenhall.

The city's opposition Tory leader
Neville Patten said UKIP's recent performance, with one of its MEPs, Godfrey
Bloom, resigning the whip after hitting a
journalist and jokingly referring to a room
full of women as 'sluts', may change its fortunes

Councillor Patten said: "There has been a threat from UKIP, we have to be honest about that. But seeing how they have been performing at their conference, are they ready to go into a pact with anyone?"

Postman Pat ready to drop in on town

Postman Pat will be swapping Greendale for Stourbridge next month – and he dropped in to deliver the message personally. He visited the town for a rattle and rhyme session at the town's library, attended by children from Shooting Stars nursery.

Then he took a walk around the page calling at Stourbridge Town Hall

area, calling at Stourbridge Town Hall, where he will perform during half term. And he passed by the Crystal Leisure Centre to meet some children

Leisure Centre to meet some children in the soft play suite.

He will be back, performing at the town hall, on October 30.

Councillor Tracy Woods, Dudley Council cabinet member for culture said: "We were really excited to welcome Postman Pat to Stourbridge. "We have lots of great shows coming up at Stourbridge and Dudley Town Halls over the next few weeks and mer hall over the next few weeks and mer

Halls over the next few weeks and months, including Ed Byrne and Jason Manford." Visit www.dudley.gov.uk/entertainment for further details and ticket information.

Couple dance their way to 60 diamond years of wedded bliss



Ron and Sylvia Moss celebrate their anniversary with a telegram from the Queen

THEY were just teenagers when they met at dance classes and their romance was held up due to the Second World War, but a couple grabbed the chance to marry as soon as they

and their romance was held up due to the Second World War, but a couple grabbed the chance to marry as soon as they could.

Ron Moss and his wife Sylvia have celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary. The couple tied the knot 60 years ago at St Lukes Church in Cradley Heath.

They first met in their teenage years at the former Workers Institute in Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, which has since been moved to the Black Country Living Museum, but Mr Moss was called away to serve two years in the medical corps in Egypt, reaching the rank of Corporal.

On his return however, the pair again met at dance classes and began courting. Sylvia's family tradition was such that she would not marry until she turned 21 years old. She duly did one Wednesday and married Ron on the Saturday of the same week. A past president of the Black Country Society and a local historian, Mr Moss as aid the couple had always worked well as a team. Mr Moss, a retired engineer, aged 83, said: "We've always worked well together and having a family just knit us even tighter together."

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Brides fear for big day after firm shuts down

day after a wedding decorations company closed suddenly, it has been claimed.

Many of the distraught brides, who paid in advance to Dudley company A Little Bit of Bling to provide the decor at their receptions, now fear they will never see what they paid for - or get their money back.

Dy Louise Jew

had paid £50 deposit to Mrs Cawthorne last year and a balance of £225 in June to back.

paid for – or get their money back.

Owner Sarah Cawthorne said she had already paid back five brides that she admitted failing to honour bookings for but denied as many as 170 were being let down as has been alleged by complainants.

She pledged the rest of her orders, which she says are for 102 receptions, would be honoured by Paradise Weddings of Solihull.

honoured by Paradise Weddings of Solihull.
Many of her customers have banded together on a Facebook page called 'Burned Brides'.
Dudley Trading Standards, which has received 14 complaints from customers, said it had worked closely with the company to arrange refunds for a 'number of individuals'.
Newly-wed Tamar Banks,

Newly-wed Tamar Banks, of Rowley Regis, said she

had paid £50 deposit to Mrs Cawthorne last year and a balance of £225 in June to book decorations for her reception.

Her order included 100 chair covers and sashes

chair covers and sashes, post box, two bay trees and a 'wish tree'. But, two weeks before her wedding last month the Facebook page for A Little Bit of Bling 'went

A Little Bit of Bling went down'.

She spoke to Sarah Cawthorne, who said she had been in hospital but would still provide the decorations for the wedding.

Mrs Cawthorne, of Sedgley, said: "I have had to retire from business due to ill health on the advice of my doctor. I have depression and anxiety arising from business pressures and family matters.

"I had to close my Face-

"I had to close my Face-book page down after receiv-ing death threats."

Instruments stolen



Tim Scarborough's trailer contained around 200 drums and percussion instruments

A MUSICIAN has been left devastated after a trailer containing around 200 drums and percussion instruments was stolen from outside his home.

stolen from outside his home.

Tim Scarborough arrived home at Damson Way, Bewdley around 4pm on September 30 to find the vehicle gone. The 49-year-old runs Rhythmicity, a company which stages music workshops in schools, churches and for businesses. He said the instruments were the tools of his trade and he would struggle to meet his work commitments without them. Around 30 drums were taken, including tom-toms and African hand-drums, along with 200 other instruments such as maracas, bells and tambourines.

The stolen instruments are worth around 65 500 Anyone.

The stolen instruments are worth around £5,500. Anyone who saw the trailer being taken away or who can help should call 101.

Estate to get spruce up

A COMMUNITY litter pick will help to spruce up a housing
estate this month. The Holly Hall and Woodside Tenants
and Residents Association is organising the event in Dudley
this Saturday. Volunteers are asked to meet at St Augustine's Church, in Stourbridge Road, Holly Hall, between
10am and 12pm. Bags, high visibility jackets, litter pickers
and gloves will be provided for use.

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GARDENING CLUB

ON September 27 Dave Smith was the speaker for Clent Gardening Club's monthly meeting, his subject was 'Winter subject was Hanging Baskets'.

monthly meeting, mas subject was "Winter Hanging Baskets'.

Dave demonstrated his ability to plant out various pots, baskets and containers for the winter in a way so as not to need watering, except by the elements.

This was done by using a very wet mixture of soil containing slow release fertiliser and water absorbent crystals packed very closely together, showing beautiful results. Dave also brought along lots of plants for sale. This proved very successful as advice was freely given with all purchases. A good evening was had by all.

The next meeting will be on October 25 at Clent Parish Hall from 7.30pm. It will feature "An evening with Reg Moule" which some people may remember was a member of the "Gardners Question Time" team on good old steam radio.

There is no meeting in November. This is for members only and devoted to the members' supper.

Anyone interested in either joining or just visiting the Club can get further details by visiting clent gardeningclub.word press.com/or by contacting chairman Pat Orme on 01384 394451.

Coffee morning cash baskets goes towards hospice



From left, chairman Jane Emery, Jeremy Hobbs and vice-chairman Pamela Lane

A COFFEE morning for Cameo members and friends was held at the Mercure

Goldthorn Hotel on September 10.

The event was to raise money towards the cost of a chair-bed for Compton Hospice, our chosen charity for 2013.

chosen charity for 2013.

The committee supplied cakes, coffee was served and monies raised, including proceeds from the raffle arranged by Elaine Lay, added £408.

The chairman Jane Emery welcomed

CAMEO LADIES

Jeremy Hobbs, vice-chairman of Compton Hospice who gave an enlightened résumé of his life including theatre debuts which con-cluded with Jeremy singing 'I am what I am' for Le Cage Grateful thanks to the Mercure Caldthorn Hotal for their beautiful:

Grateful thanks to the Me Goldthorn Hotel for their hospitality. For further information about the group contact 01902 330727 or 01902 844836.

FRIENDS OF DUDLEY CASTLE

THE FRIENDS of Dudley Castle have arranged a meeting at 2.30pm on Sunday (October 13) in the

new pavilion at Priory Park. Karen Slade from the Society of Artisans will talk

about the research she has members

done and how she has re-created the medieval tiles from the Priory. Cost is £2 for non- 01902 448558. members and tickets are available from either Pam on 01902 409890 or Greta on and tickets

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NEWS

Firm is hoping to cut it through new investment

is planning a six-figure invest-ment on the back of continuing strong demand.

Arford Steel Profiles in Stallings Lane has almost doubled its turnover to £2.5 million since owner and manag-ing director Diane Kimberley took over

Now the company is ready to spend

Now the company is ready to spend £300,000 on a hi-tech plasma cutting machine in a move to further strengthen its portfolio. Miss Kimberley hopes Arford's biggest-ever investment will help the company steal a march on some of its traditional rivals. She said: "The arrival of plasma technology will increase our capacity at a stroke and should make us more responsive to our customers.

a stroke and should make us more responsive to our customers.

"People ordering steel profiles increasingly demand the highest quality work carried out to a tight timescale. They want jobs done quickly, but they also want them done more precisely than ever before.

Demands

"The new machine will mean we can

"The new machine will mean we can neet those demands and I hope it can lead to a bright future for us.
"Our flame cutting CNC machines are accurate to a certain point and we'll keep them on site because Plasma can't cut thicker material.
"But for plate up to 50mm, flame cutting is like using a hammer and chisel compared to this.
"The investment takes us on to the next level and will mean we can provide the complete steel cutting service for our customers."

provide the compare seen cutting service for our customers."

The arrival of the Plasma Viper machine, sourced from Esprit Automation in Nottingham, will mean a further addition to the company's 13-strong workforce. arther addition to the company's 13-trong workforce.

It's also likely to have several other

"You can't afford to stand still for long in any business and we were



Flame cutting taking place at Arford Steel Profiles factory in Kingswinford

positive implications for the business, which has been at its Stallings Lane site for 20 years.

Miss Kimberley added: "It's a big decision to spend so much on one machine, but it was something we felt needed to be done to take the business forward!

forward.

"We've been turning over £2.5m consistently, but there was no potential to

increase capacity.
"We had reached a ceiling with the equipment we had and we couldn't do any more. Now we have somewhere to

determined not to do that. You have to

determined not to do that. You have to change, modernise and evolve to stay ahead of the game."

She echoes the views of many business leaders in the Black Country who feel the economy is showing early signs of a potential recovery.

"There's cautious optimism around that things are beginning to change for the better.

that things are beginning to change for the better.
"I wouldn't say things seem to be picking up yet, but there are indica-tions that better times could be around the corner. Demand is consistently strong at the moment and I'm trusting that this will bring in more business," she said

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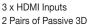
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Herbie rides again at park car show



Mark Winterbottom from Bushbury with his 1972 Herbie replica VW at the show in Baggeridge Country Park

CAR enthusiasts came from near and far to show off their classic vehicles at a show at Baggeridge Country Park. From Volkswagen camper vans to Ford Capris, around 80 cars were on display at the park's Classic Car Show recently.

recently.

The show, in its 10th year, saw the

The show, in its 10th year, saw the vehicles lined up on the park's car park, while visitors browsed them and spoke to the owners.

The event helped the park attract more than 1,500 people.

Organiser Dave Daly, who also runs the Baggeridge Tea Rooms, said: "It was fantastic this year, we had the weather on our side, which saw many more people turn out for it.

"We hold the event not just for car enthusiasts to show off their cars but

to make people aware of the park. It's easy to forget you are in the Black Country when you are standing in the 160 acres of beautiful parkland here."

Among the exhibitors was Vaughan

Among the exhibitors was Vaughan Horden, who displayed his 1968 Mini, built in Cowley, Oxfordshire.

The decorator purchased the car when he was 19 – and has kept it ever since after predicting the vehicle would one day be a classic.

Mr Horden, aged 49, of Rangeways Road, Stourbridge, said: "When they started to say they were going to stop making the cars, I decided to keep mine.

mine.
"It was bought because it was cheap and economical, but I never thought I'd be showing it off at classic car shows 30 years later." He added: "It's a great

car because it's so light it is extremely quick and handles really well.

"I don't drive it much anymore, but enjoy taking it to shows like this." Colin Dulson also drove his Volkswa-gen Camper Van to the event. The van was made in 1962 and is a split wind-screen model. The model ceased being made in 1967.

The motor shop worker, 66, from Dudley, said: "I don't really know what it is I like about the cars – it just gets in your blood.

your blood."

He added: "I go regularly to the park with my grand-daughter, so after hearing about the show I decided to take along the van.

"It's a friendly show which everyone with the state of the shows a state of t

Great War memorial back to former glory

those who lost their lives in the First World War has been re-dedicated after years of

The memorial at St Giles' Church, Hanover Road, Rowley Regis, has been worked on over the past year to make the inscribed names that were fading legible

The event held recently was an emo tional day for those involved in its near £30,000 restoration who got to see the final result.

final result.
Councillor Barbara Price, Deputy
Mayor of Sandwell Council and Rowley
ward member, was one of those
involved in the work. She said: 'tl's so
beautiful and I was so touched by the

"We asked for some money from Sandwell Council to do it up, and that's how we were able to restore it to the magnificent cenotaph that's there

now.
Partners involved in its restoration included the council, the church, Royal British Legion, St Michael's School and members of the local community.

Students

Richard Warby, who researched the cenotaph with his late father Malcolm, said: "We researched the memorial about 10 years ago because none of the names could be read, and a lady had me to the vicar to ask about a rela-

tive.
"We checked with the Commission of
War Graves website and my father

went through the military archives and local newspapers.
"Eventually we managed to track them all down, and we've got certainty on pretty much all of them.
"My father, who has passed away, would have been thrilled. We never envisaged that the memorial would be restored, and we were both delighted to learn the council were going to do this – it's absolutely beautiful." Dignitaries at the ceremony included David Bradnock, the Deputy Lord Lieutenant for the West Midlands, and the Mayor of Sandwell Councillor Linda Horton.
Students and pupils from St

Councillor Linda Horton.
Students and pupils from St
Michael's and Westminster schools
have also been involved with the
project from the beginning and read
the names of the 98 soldiers recorded
on the memorial during the ceremony.

Muscling in with flexing pec-tacular

TOP body-builders flexed their consid-

the opposition and win a place compet-ing against the best in the universe. More than 70 of the country's best muscle men and women descended on Brierley Hill Civic Hall to take part in

Brierley Hill Civic Hall to take part in a range of categories, including juniors and veteran over-50s.

It also provided the chance to win a spot on the platform at the flagship National Amateur Body Builders' Association Universe competition this month. Hundreds packed into the venue, off Bank Street, for the contest. Competitors completed their own routine of poses for the judges lasting around one minute.

They also had to stand in poses alongside their fellow competitors on stage, which officials say cranks up the tension. Many continued to work out including using dumbbells until



Contestants flex pecs in the hope of winning a place in the Universe title

moments before they went on stage.

The dedicated participants are said to often deliberately dehydrate themselves to tighten their skin.

And some are said to eat chocolate just as they start to compete to help give them an energy boost.

Former body-building champion Jim Charles, who organises the Brierley Hill event along with his just has been involved in running the event for 50 years and is

Meat the butcher of a different cut



ager Marc Gough with crocodile, zebra, bison, buffalo cangaroo meat at his butcher's shop based in Stourport

and kangaroo meat at his butcher's shop based in Stourport A BUTCHER is offering customers meat with a bite – with crocodile as well as kangaroo, zebra, wildebeast, emu, springbok, camel and wagvu beef on the menu.

Laurence Gough, aged 56, who runs the butcher's shop in High Street, Stourport, with son, Marc, aged 30, has customers arriving from Birmingham, the Black Country and even from Bristol to buy the alternative meat cuts on offer. He has also supplied a couple of top restaurants in London, including one at Notting Hill, as well as hotels and pubs locally. Laurence has run the shop for more than 26 years and has been offering customers unusual meats such as ostrich, kangaroo and buffalo for about 20 years.

Laurence said: "Nowadays people are very concerned with buying meat containing low cholesterol and zero fat." "Often these meats offer more protein than fish or chicken and turkey for people who go to the gyms for workouts."

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A Taste of Ireland - Royal Hotel Bray

Safety boost on buses as specials squad enlarged

will boost the fight to make travel on public transport in Dudley safer in the wake of the death of Halesowen schoolgirl, Christina Edkins.

schoolgirl, Christina EdKins.
The men and women have been jointly recruited by West Midlands and British Transport Police and are due to join the specialist squad that deals with crime and anti-social behaviour on buses, trains and trams in the region next February after completing their training. The Safer Travel Police Team target criminals who operate on public transport and encourage youngsters to

Special constables have the same Special constables have the same powers as regular officers and wear the same uniform while working a minimum of four hours each week. Inspector Lee Gordon said: "They will help to provide a visible reassurance for people using trains, trams and buses."
West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner Bob Jones said: "These new recruits will be a fantastic addition to the Safer Travel Team in helping to protect the travelling community within the West Midlands."
Crime on buses in the West Midlands has fallen by 67 per cent in the last six

has fallen by 67 per cent in the last six

2006/7 to 2398 in the last financial year. A recent report concluded: "We

year. A recent report concluder: We know that 17 per cent of passengers feel uncomfortable due to the anti social behaviour of others."
Sixteen-year-old Christina Edkins was stabbed to death as she sat on the top deck of a bus in Hagley Road, Birmicham while on her way to Lescows.

top deck of a bus in Hagley Road, Birm-ingham while on her way to Leasowes High School in Kent Road, on March 7. Paranoid schizophrenic Phillip Simelane of Dalkeith Street, Walsall was last week ordered to be detained indefinitely in a secure mental hospital after admitting manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

Futuristic styles are taken out of College's design A PLANNED multi-million pound revamp of a college entrance is set be given the green light after bosses removed 'futuristic' aspects for the new building extension's design. The proposed roof top over the new entrance to the Hagley Road Campus of Birmingham Metropolitan College, Stourbridge included a diagonal overhanging visor, attracting opposition from English Heritage, which said the design did not suit the area. Bosses at the campus, formerly known as Stourbridge College, then amended the plan to show a rectangular roof-top. The move resulted in the objection being withdrawn. Last week, planning officers at Dudley Council recommended the planning application be approved by councillors on the development control committee. The development is part of a wider £20m transformation.

The development is part of a wider £20m transformation for the college over the next 10 years. Margaret Scott, chairman of the Stourbridge Town Council, welcomed the change in design.

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SLIM active lady, 60's, N/S, seeks honest, kind gent, 57-62 for friendship, honest, kind gent, 57-62 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407693 €

NICOLA 32yr old slim sexy single mum looking for fun times maybe more with similar open-minded uncomplicated companion. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407941 ₿

LISA 37yr old very attractive, sporty blonde blue eyed outgoing female looking for genuine male to spend time with, get to know and take it from there, no pressure, Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407621 🗒

ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 366019

HI I am Mary 30yrs, small build, horsey and love farming, seeking an honest male 50plus who also likes country pursuits, GSOH essential, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407607

SALLY hurt single mum 27 looking to restore her faith in men, looking for sincere, loyal, trustworthy male, 37-57yrs for friendship, hopefully more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407497

ванвая 36 slim blonde likes music, sport, the outdoors, quiet nights in etc, sport, the found of spert willing to expand and share interests and get to know me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407465 🗒 BARBARA 36 slim blonde likes music.

HONEST beautiful black female, N/S, seeks honest, caring, white man, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No:** 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405395

SARAH 24, brunette, brown eyes, attractive, slim, smart, seeks male with GSOH, 30's in Kidderminster area for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

LARGE female, seeking male for fun es. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406027

PAT 67, attractive, likes reading, holidays, seeking female, 65-72 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405985 €

5FT 10ins slim brunette female with GSOH, Down to earth, fun and quirky, looking for similar male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403991 ₿

ARE you my Knight in shining armour? Young 65yr old female, smoker, seeks genuine guy, 55-60 who is slim in Walsall area for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376742 €

ANNE 57, nurse, 5ft 4ins, likes wimming, cooking, countryside oking for friendship and company el No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

SICK of being stuck on the shelf, Jenny attractive female seeks N/S caring male 42-55 who feels the same to share adult companionship, meals in/out, possibly LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405277 €

46YR old black British female, 5ft 4ins, seeking male for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404987

WOMAN 55yrs old, N/S, size 14, likes animals, nature, reading, TV, quiet life seeks man 45-55, N/S for friendship maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404447

FEMALE 41, 5ft 7ins, seeks male for nights in/out, romance and fun. Tel No. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397361 월 ₩

BECCA 5ft 9ins, curvy, good job, seeking black/mixed race maie, 55 75, 6ft plus. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391693

SARAH slim, honest, caring, attractive looking for that special guy to spend special times with, looks unimportant, similar lonely hearts need only apply. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

SALLY neglected 27yr old single female looking for genuine guy to help mend my broken heart and enjoy lots of adult fun times along the way. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407499 §

LOVING caring young 66yr old female, 5ft 2ins, size 12, blonde hair, GSOH, seeks knight in shining armour 58-62 with GSOH. Walsall. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 340763 ₩

BLONDE blue eyed 72yr old widow GSOH, young at heart, seeks honest GSOH, young at heart, seeks honest, caring gent of similar age for holidays, weekends away and happy times, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407113 🗒

MEDIUM build female, 66, widow, 5ft 5ins, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks sincere male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407003

GOOD looking professional female, 51, enjoys arts, wining/dining, sight seeing, country walks, seeks special male to enjoy great Summer with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406765

SINGLE female, 43, seeks kind, considerate male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406449 🖯

TO REPLY TO ADS WITH A TEXT THE BOX NUMBER TO 63222 i.e. TEXT: 123456 to 63222

JANE attractive, seeking male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403807

BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46. GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384852

LOVING caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out. GSOH, smoker, seeks slim smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 364651

WIDOW young hearted 70's, N/S, likes reading, concerts, gardening, meals out, WLTM younger gentleman with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Roy No: 404177

48YR old attractive female seeking local fun maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403947

BLONDE attractive educated lady 50, male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818 🗓



SARAH 23, attractive, brunette, slim, looking for male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392979

GRACE Jones lookalike, black lady, 53, 5ft 11ins, OHAC, WLTM male, 45-65, 6ft plus for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397681

FEMALE 50, 5ft 7ins, average build, fair hair, easygoing, seeking tall, slim male, 47-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395793

SEXY mature female, in great condition, but has been without for far too long! Looking for intimate adult fun without commitment. Age/status without commitment. Age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955
Box No: 358186

BEAUTIFUL but lonely widow, adaptable and easygoing seeks broadminded male for no strings adult fun. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377460 🗒

INEXPERIENCED young girl, very pretty, very flexible, seeks older male with plenty of experience to teach her No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 358188

PATRICIA likes travel, cooking, socialising, seeks honest, sincere white male, 40-55 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402053

GAIL 52, blonde hair, 5ft 2ins, likes nights out, seeks N/S male, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402041

LOVING caring young 68yr old female,

SHY lady, 38, seeks understanding, genuine, sincere male, 40-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 400981 🗒

66YR old widow, seeks male for adult fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393436

SHELIA 70plus, 5ft 2ins, GSOH,

ATTRACTIVE female, young 49, 5ft 7ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, genuine, loyal, easygoing, GSOH, seeks tall, handsome male, 40-50 for fun times, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406135 🗐

companionship and days out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406603

SARAH fun brunette, attractive, brown eyes, slim, 5ft 5ins, smart, modern likes nights out, looking for nice man 28-30 with good personality who car make me laugh. Kidderminster. Te No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398187

ANGELA 46, single mum, likes walks,

SHELLEY 48. 5ft 5ins. brunette seeking discreet relationship with male 48-52 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405795

LADY 69, seeking companionship, friendship, ng theatre bingo No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404915

PETITE honest black female N/S, GSOH, likes travelling, good conversation, cosy nights in, seeking genuine white male for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

LIZ 47, N/S, 5ft, dark hair/eyes, loves socialising, happy, bubbly, seeks similar aged, N/S male for company, walks, pubs, socialising and travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396293 🖰

CARIBBEAN female, warm personality intelligent, honest, caring, understanding, 5ft 6ins, medium build, N/S, 46, likes dancing, socialising, seeks likeminded male, 46-56 for LTR. W Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 371605 🛍

HI boys! Beautiful, young, blue eyed brunette, very, very sexy, will do anything you wish, anytime. Red hot and waiting to hear from you. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 358182 ⊜

STUNNING young female looking for discreet, daytime, adult fun. Age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363460 🗒

CLASSY very feminine brunette with unusual blue eyes seeks considerate mature male to share intimate times Call me, you won't regret it! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 373566 €

LOUISE 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, average looks, likes reading, meals out, cinema, theatre, quiet pubs, honest, genuine, kind, caring, GSOH, seeks male, 42-58. **Tel No: 0906 500** 3955 Box No: 391308

BLACK attractive female, 34, slim N/S, seeks genuine white male for friendship, maybe more. Holby. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367021 €

60 to share a happy life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386169 €

LARGE sincere lady looking for LTR, age/size unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378409 🗒 🚳

40YR old female, 5ft 9ins, blonde hair blue eyes, own home, good job, likes swimming, cooking, meals out, wine, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 ox No: 387795

VERY attractive intelligent, slim, blonde lady, GSOH, kind, OHAC, young 50, seeks handsome, solvent, genuine male for days/nights out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 369701 ∰

GORGEOUS black attractive female, 36, GSOH, N/S, seeks genuine, caring, white male, 30-40 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392002

LIZ 42, black, divorced, seeking male 44-54 for kind, sincere, honest, open relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 400949

ATTRACTIVE slim lady 47, WLTM slim guy who wants to court a girl the old fashioned way. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398579 ₿

BIG bubbly black female, single mum, looking for male for nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

LADY 70 plus looking for male who likes dancing, theatre, cinema, meals out, with own car for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401139

ATTRACTIVE slim 39yr old female, no ties, N/S, seeks sophisticated male, 35-45 for evenings out, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 362810

JANE 48vrs West Midlands, likes meals out, cinema, theatre, looking for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403949

NICE looking caring Christian lady 36yrs old seeks kind reliable gentleman for long relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401057 🗒 BLONDE attractive, educated lady,

tall, slim, curvy, 47, seeks tall, professional, 40-52. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 362478 SANDRA 5ft 4ins, Afro-Caribbean

likes walks, cinema, reading, socialising, swimming, nights in, seeking male for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392666 € 43YR old female, bubbly, down to

earth, trustworthy, honest, caring, seeks male, 45 plus. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402945 LADY mid 70's, active, WLTM gent for friendship, meals out, days out and theatre. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box

No: 402439

46YR old female, looking for male for relationship and enjoy life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402289 ∰

SINGLE **MEN**

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Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT207 To : 60109. (T&C's below).

SINGLE gent, kind, loving, trustworthy WLTM lady 75 plus who is not ready for the scrapheap yet. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407865

TONY early 50's, slim, seeking female for discreet adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407809 🖰 MALE 51, seeks lady to spoil and pamper. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 313191

TALL intelligent attractive British

Indian gent, 44, seeks kind, attractive lady, 35-45 for LTR. Any nationality. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408003 🗒 SIMON many interests, sports, the arts, countryside, gardening, music, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955

Box No: 407969 TOM late 60's, likes music, dancing, bingo, seeks female, 63-70 for nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407769

RETIRED 60yr old male, seeks pleasant genuine female, 55-60 for sincere relationship, sociable, likes rugby and music. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407749

MALE young 54, easy going, hurt in past, looking for lady for no strings or LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

BROADMINDED 67yr old male, fit, active, GSOH, caring, loving, seeks N/S female, open minded, 62-69 for genuine LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407783



MALE likes pubs, socialising, football, seeking black female, 46-57 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407595

40YR old male, seeks female, 30-40 in Leamington Spa/Rugby area for romance and LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407551

MALE 50, likes country walks, nights in/out, swimming, meals out, seeking loving, caring female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393157 € BROADMINDED 67yr old male, fit,

active, GSOH, caring, loving, seeks N/S female, open minded, 62-69 for genuine LTR. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500** 3955 Box No: 407785

TONY 32, honest, caring, looking for nice lady for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: MALE 5ft 9ins, blond hair, into soul

music, WLTM fun loving, caring black female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404647

BIRMINGHAM black male, 48, quiet, slim, easygoing, caring, good listener, seeks independent, loving female for LTR and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401375

CHRIS divorced, 55, smoker, seeks female, 30-45 for lasting relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407715 ∯

SINGLE male, youthful, serene, seeks similar down to earth non materialistic female to become everlasting soul mates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407711 🗐

JIMMY 53 good looking, fit, genuine honest, very loving and looking for the same in a woman. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397157 🗎 🛍

SINGLE male 59, no ties, honest loyal, serene nature, seeks mature female with the view to becoming lifetime soul mates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404527

TIGER looking for nice BBW for fun and frolics. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408015 ∯

TALL attractive male, 54, seeks attractive female for daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407915 🗒

PETER 5ft 7ins, 35, cuddly, kind, considerate, seeking similar female, 18-30 who enjoys life to the full. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407869

SHY 60yr old male, seeks genuine

JEFF 60's, 6ft 2ins, fit, seeking lady, mid 50-60's for friendship/relationship nights in/out and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407811 BLACK Male, young-looking 40s, seeks large white Female, 40 plus, for fun, laughter & good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 341689

HONEST black Male, 45, tall, slim build, caring, quiet, seeks nice, quiet white lady, large build to share all the good things. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 341691

JEROME black Afro-Caribbean, 5ft 11ins, slim, intelligent, witty, outgoing, well spoken, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392817

JOHN 50, seeking mature female for no strings daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394148

BLACK guy fit, active, 66, feels 50 looks 40, seeks genuine fit lady, 65-70 with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396729

BLACK male 48, slim build, 5ft 11ins looking for mature lady for daytime no strings fun, Birmingham area. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404625

BOB looking to meet mature female for no strings daytime fun. Tel 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401943

TREVOR 67, medium build, fit/active WLTM West Midlands lady 64-70 for regular meets. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404257

BLACK guy 67, fit, active, seeks active, fit lady 64-69 with GSOH, genuine for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406249

GENUINE good looking male, 39 seeks sexy, genuine female, 24-42 for adult fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407411

IAN 5ft 10ins, 55, caring, honest, looking for sincere female with good looking for sincere female with good personality, 45-55, enjoy being out, socialising, meals. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382997

MALE 58, good looking, placid, seeks honest, loyal, caring female with view to becoming soul mates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 400313

HANDSOME chap, looking N/S female for fun and relationship. Tel_No: 0906 for fun and relationship. Tel N 500 3955 Box No: 407631

PATSY 50, decent looking, seeking any aged female for company. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407373 🗎

MALE 41, honest, caring, seeks female, 18-55 for friendship, maybe more, must have GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407677 ₿

BROADMINDED 67yr old black male GSOH, caring, loving, seeks lady, 62 69 for friendship and adult fun. Tel No 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406257 ∰

GAY SINGLES

IF YOU'RE LOOKING to meet or chat to other men, look no further TXT: GAY247 to 60109 www.localgaydate.co.uk

GENUINE honest, caring male, seeks mature, hairy, bald guy for genuine friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407529 KEVIN 34, 6ft 2ins, blond hair, medium build, toned, young boyish good looks likes nights out, sports, holidays, seeks

similar male, any age for adventurous fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 355984 🛍 DAVID gay seeking similar male, 18-80. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407875 🗎

GAY guy 58, Shropshire, seeks male 30-80 for friend, companion or long term relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407819

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First book tells of Egypt travels

AN HISTORIAN has written her first book in aid of a forces charity.

Elaine Combes, 55, from Vicarage Road, Wednesbury, held the launch of her book Through Green Eyes, about historic Egypt, with a raffle at Ye Olde Leathern Bottel pub. Proceeds from the book, a record of her travels through Egypt, are going to Help for Heroes.

Heroes.
Combined with the money Mrs Coombes raised with a tombola held three weeks earlier, her total is now around £300.
She said: "I have always wanted to write a book but I work full-time managing a menswear store for Berwin and Berwin, and look after my home and family, so have to fit it inn.

it inn.
"I am ex-Royal Signals and, after a couple of encounters with injured soldiers, it brought me to the conclusion that if the book made any money that's where I wanted it to go." For details email eejut1@google-poil.com

Tory MPs deny rumours on marginal seats move

quashed rumours they plan to desert their marginal seats in a bid to bag a safe Tory constituency at the next election.

Both Margot James, MP for Stourbridge, and Mark Garnier, who represents Wyre Forest, said the gossip in local political circles was 'non-

sense'.

They had both heard the rumours, alleging they planned to apply to be considered for the

regularly and most people feel we are a Govern-ment to get our finances right and the recovery

safe Tory seat of NIII Worcestersline, which is be vacated by long-standing MP Peter Luff at the next election.

But Miss James, who owns a country house in Broadway, in the Mid-Worcestershire constituency, said: "There is zero truth in it—it's just monsense.

"I wouldn't dream of moving and have been readopted by the Stourbridge Conservative Association for the next election.

"It's clearly a marginal seat but I canvass quite regularly and most people feel we are a Government to get our finances right and the recovery which is spread by mischief makers." which is spread by mischief makers.

Ex-bandmates in

Gig for drummer

FORMER Oasis frontman Liam Gallagher
will play with frmer bandmate Paul 'Bonehead' Arthurs for the first time in 13 years at
a one-off charity concert in aid of former
Charlatans drummer Jon Brooks.
Mr Brookes, a keen West Bromwich Albion
supporter from Burntwood in Staffordshire,

Chariatans Grummer Joh Brooks.
Mr Brookes, a keen West Bromwich Albion supporter from Burntwood in Staffordshire, died after battling a brain tumoun, aged 44.
More than 200 mourners attended the father-of-three's funeral. Guests included Albion defender Jonas Olsson.
The gig at the Royal Albert Hall on October 18 is being held as a tribute to the to the popular musician and will raise money for The Brain Tumour Charity.
As well as a headline set by The Charlatans, the show will feature Liam Gallagher performing with members of Beady Eye and guitarist 'Bonehead' an original member of Oasis who left in 2000.
Manic Street Freachers singer James Dean

Manic Street Preachers singer James Dean Bradfield will also perform solo, while the Chemical Brothers will DJ in between.



Seized compost is a boost to garden



Manager Maria Williams and Rita Parks at Tiled House

BAGS of compost and plant pots seized in a raid on a cannabis factory have helped flowers flourish in a garden retreat.

garden retreat.
Police officers who raided a drugs den earlier this year donated the pots to help care home patients in Dudley bring colour to their borders.
Tiled House Intermediate Care and Rehabilitation

Calvin Klein Xeyes Bench. Bench.

Home, Pensnett, has been able to use the compost and plant pots to create a colour-ful flower bed to brighten up the outside space around the home. In the past the offi-cers have given heat lamps to Dudley Zoo to help rep-tile lear warm

to Dudley Zoo to help rep-tiles keep warm.

Maria Williams, manager of the care home, said: "With this donation we can improve our environment."

Addict son warned over drugs danger

THE mother of a drug user who was found dead in his home had warned her son that his addiction would kill him, an inquest heard.

Peter Parsons, from Anderson Gardens in Tipton, had been using heroin for the past 20 years before he was found dead by his neighbours, slumped in a chair on June 7.

There was a syringe, a belt and a wrap of heroin found near to the 42-year-old's body.

At the inquest into his death held at Smethwick Council House Dr Suhaid Muzaffar, who performed the post mortem on Mr Parsons, said there was quite a high concentration of heroin in his blood.

This he said caused acute respiratory depression, when breathing is inadequate, which led to Mr Parsons' death. His mother June Parsons, speaking at the inquest, said he had a 'very addictive personality', and that she had previously warned him about his drug use.

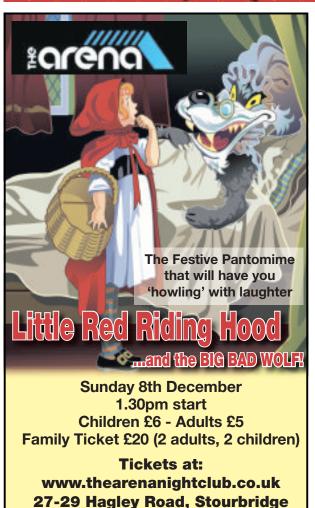
Black Country coroner Robin Balmain concluded that Mr Parson died due to abuse of dependent drugs.

School joins up to solar scheme

A MIDLANDS primary school has installed solar panels. St Oswald's CofE, Kidderminster has become the latest school in Worcestershire to join the county's 'Spend-to-Save' scheme







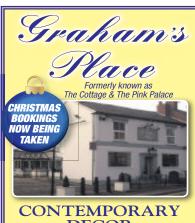
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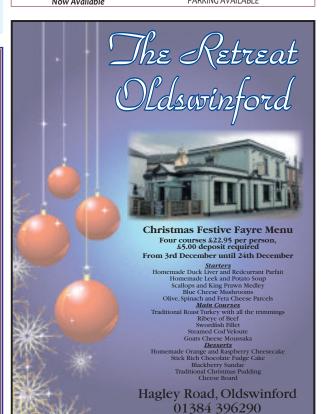
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What's On! Stourbridge

Mars aiming for a gig to Treasure

SLICK American R&B star Bruno Mars will be in concert at Birmingham NIA tomorrow. With the success of most recent album Unorthodox Jukebox, more than 50 million single sales world-wide and 14 Grammy nom-inations, the 27-year-old from Hawaii has reached superstar status.

His hits include Treas-ure, Grenade and When I Was Your Man.

Modfather and his OCS guitarist gigs

OCS guitarist gigs
THE Modfather, Paul
Weller, has a sold out gig at
Wolverhampton Civic hall
on Wednesday, October 16.
Meanwhile, the former
Jam man's band member
and Ocean Colour Scene
guitarist Steve Cradock has
a home city gig at Birmingham Digbeth venue The
HMV Institute on November 1.
It will feature tracks
from his solo album Travel
Wild Travel Free.

Lazy Doreen is to grant an audience

grant an audience
YOUTUBE sensation and
Black Country playwright
David Tristram's comic
creation Doreen, as played
by Walsall actress Gill
Jordan, is on tour in the
West Midlands.
The self-confessed
layabout and scrounger
invites her fans to An Audience with Doreen at The
Public in West Bromwich
tomorrow night and Sutton
Coldfield Highbury
Theatre on Sunday.

Ghosts from the past haunt elderly couple in a new play

War Horse gallops into Birmingham



A scene from War Horse, which is being staged at Birmingham Hippodrome

ONE of the most popular plays of recent years finally arrives in Birm-ingham next week when the National Theatre's award-winning production of War Horse begins a three-and-a-bell made tredistance that it's His half week residency at the city's Hip-podrome theatre.

Adapted by Nick Stafford from the popular children's book by Michael Morpurgo, about a farm boy and his

beloved horse who both find them-selves on duty amid the horrors of the First World War, the play is still running in London's West End and was made into a film by Steven Spiel-

It is most famous for the incredible puppet horses and their life-like movement, created by the Handspring Puppet Company.

Photo: Brinkhhoff Mogenburg

This touring production of War Horse will be staged at the Hurst Street theatre from Wednesday, October 16, until Saturday, November

On November 8 Michael Morpurgo himself will be making a special appearance at the theatre giving an afternoon reading from the book, accompanied by musicians.

Rep, for the first time since Glorious in 2005, to star opposite voice of The Simpsons Harry Shearer in poignant New York comedy-drama

Daytona from October 21 to 26
They play an elderly Jewish couple with a passion for ballroom dancing whose lives are thrown into turmoil by the arrival of a relative with news

arrival of a relative with news harking back to the Nazi death camps.

Oliver Cotton's new play has received acclaim and is coming to the refurbished Rep as part of its UK tour.

Meanwhile, Martin Shaw returns home to Birmingham to lead the cast in classic trial

drama Twelve Angry Men at the Rep until October 19. This places TV's former Judge John Deed back in a legal setting, trying to per-suade fellow jurors including Hollywood actor Robert

Vaughan.

Another familiar US film and TV actor, Starsky Another familiar US film and TV actor, Starsky himself, Paul Michael Glaser stars in Craig Revel Horwood's new version of If I Were A Rich Man musical Fiddler On The Roof at the

Fiddler On The Roof at the Grand, Tuesday to Saturday. The regular Royal Shake-speare Company audience will be bolstered by fans of former Doctor Who and



Maureen Linman as Ellie in new play Daytona

Broadchurch star David

Broadchurch star David Tennant when he begins his stint as Richard II at Stratford-upon-Avon today. It remains in repertoire until November 16 and will be screened live in cinemas on November 13.

Birmingham Royal Ballet stage their sumptuous version of Sleeping Beauty at the Hippodrome until Saturday whilst a version of the fairy tale on ice is skated by Imperial Ice Stars at Birmingham New Alexandra.

Early days of **Doctor Who**

CELEBRATIONS for the Doctor Who 50th anniver sary are picking up pace as the November 23 half

approaches. AudioGO have a treat for

approaches.
AudioGO have a treat for fans of the early days with The TV Episodes Collection Six, a 12-CD collection Issing more than 12 hours featuring original audio soundtracks for six of the BBCTV adventures featuring the first Doctor, William Hartnell.
Enhanced by linking narration from some original companions, the adventures include The Sensorites, The Romans, The Space Museum, The Ark, The Gunfighters and The War Machines. Narrators, including Peter Purves, are interviewed and a bonus data discincludes pdf scans of available camera scripts. Highlights include the Doctor encountering the Emperor Nero in ancient Rome and a return to then contemporary London of 1966 to find the newly-opened Post Office Tower is home to power-hungry supercomputer.
Sixth Doctor Colin Baker puter. Sixth Doctor Colin Baker

Sixth Doctor Colin Baker and Lynda Bellingham, who played The Inquisitor, read the first two adventures in The Trial of a Time Lord Volume 1: Doctor Who and the Mysterious Planet and Mindwarp, on seven CDs for nearly eight hours.

Each story is evidence at the trial of the Doctor by fellow Time Lords and is evidence that the series was running out of steam in the mid-1980s. LB

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What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 12.10.13

CHOICE



Jack Donnelly

Atlantis BBC1, 8.30pm

From the get-go, this series has been action-packed, with edge-of-the-seat adventure around every corner: there's certainly no time to draw breath between scenes, never mind nip out to make a cup of tea. This week, our heroes have to deal with the frightening sport of bull-leaping - and yes, what you're probably imagining right now is exactly what it is. Basically, Jason, Hercules and Pythagoras upset a nobleman and as punishment must evade a charging bull by vaulting over it - which is definitely easier said than done

BBC₁

7.30 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday
Kitchen Live. 11.30 Paul
Hollywood's Bread. (R) 12.00
Football Focus. 12.45 Saturday
Sportsday. 1.00 BBC News.
Fegional No. 10.00 BBC News.
Fegional No. 10.00 BBC News.
Fegional No. 10.00 BBC News.
Fegional News.
Fegional News.
Fegional News.
Fegional News.
Fegional News.
Weather 5.40 Pointless Celebrities.
Fegional News.
Fegional Ne 7.30 Breakfast, 10.00 Saturday

Atlantis. An argument with nobleman sees Jason and his friends forced to face a deadly challenge – but as they pull together, dark forces conspire against

them.

9.15 The National Lottery Live.
Chris Evans reveals the
results of the Lotto draw and
the new special event draw
49-1, and reveals the
locations of winning tickets
for the lottery raffle.

9.25 Casualty. Ash and Tess work
to discover why a mother
and daughter are so at odds
about how far the team
should go to save a loved
one's life. Jamie
inadvertently exposes a love
triangle.

triangle.
10.15 BBC News; Weather.
10.35 The Rolling Stones Return to Hyde Park: Sweet
Summer Sun. The veteran band's London concerts, which took place in July; National Lottery Update.

11.50 Film: The Man Without a Face. (1993) Drama, starring Mel Gibson. 1.40 Weatherview. 1.45 BBC News.

6.00 This Is BBC Two. 6.55 Film:
Lady of Deceit. (1947) 8.25 Film:
Two-Way Stretch. (1960) 9.50 The
Sky at Night. (R) 10.10 Reel
History of Britain. (R) 10.40 The
Life of Birds. (R) 11.30 Fred
Dibnah's Industrial Age. (R) 12.00
The A to Z of TV Cooking. 12.45
Talking Pictures. 1.35 Astaire and
Rogers Sing the Great American
Songbook. (R) 2.05 Film: Carefree.
(1936) 3.30 South Facilic. (R) 4.30
Uran author Peston Goes
6.00 Rehiel Peston Goes
5.00 Rehiel Teston Goes
of the Late 1990s and early
2000s. (R)
7.00 Count Arthur Strong.

7.00 Count Arthur Strong.
Michael is bitten by a dog.

7.30 Meerkats: Secrets of an Animal Superstar – Natural World. David Attenborough World. David Attenborough narrates the story of a 20year study of the behaviour at the story of a 20year study of the behaviour at the story of a 20year study of the behaviour at the story of a 20year study of the story of a 20year study of the story of a 20year story of a

all their ammunition shooting at a passing aircraft. (R)

aircraft. (R)

9.00 The 70s. Improved employment rights for women and the rise of punk rock. (R)

10.00 The Sarah Millican Slightly Longer Television

Programme. Extended edition. With guests David Harewood, Matthew Morrison and Diarmuid Gavin.

10.40 Film: Glorious 39. (2009) od thriller, starring iola Garai, Bill Nighy and Romola Garai, David Tennant.

12.45 Film: X The Unknown. (1956) 2.00 This Is BBC Two

6.00 CITV: Babar and the
Adventures of Badou, 6. 10 Matt
Hand Comments of Badou, 6. 35 Dino
Jan. (R) 6.50 Dino Dan. (R) 6. 35 Dino
Jan. (R) 6.50 Dino Dan. (R) 7. 00
Canimals. (R) 7.25 Dino Dan. (R) 7. 50
Canimals. (R) 7.25 Sootty.
7.35 Horrid Henry. (R) 7.50
Bottom Knocker Street. 8.30
Munch Box. 9.25 Saturday
Cookbook. (R) 10.25 Murder, She
Wester. 11.30 Surprise Surprise.
(R) 12.35 The Dales. (R) 1.00 Dox
Martin. (R) 2.00 The X Factor (R)
3.50 Film: Horrid Henry. The
Movie. (2011) 5.35 Regional
Programme; Weather. 5.45 ITV.
6.00 New You've Been Framed!
Featuring lookalikes of David
Cameron and Lorraine Kelly.
6.30 Fool Britannia. A pizzla. 6.00 CITV: Babar and the

6.30 Fool Britannia. A pizza delivery driver gets embroiled in a hostage negotiation.

7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. With Anton Du Beke, Denise Van Outen, Diane Abbott and Matt Le

8.00 The X Factor. The chance for he final 12 to shine has arrived as they take to the stage in the first live studio toud, performing hits from the 1500s. Dermot O'Leary hosts. The estudias are suits are 1500s. The Jonathan Ross Show. New series. With 10m Hanks,

Sandra Bullock, Cilla Black and James Arthur. 20 ITV News; Weather.

11.35 Film: The Eiger Sanction. (1975) Spy adventure, starring Clint Eastwood.

1.45 Jackpot247. 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 3.45 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

CHANNEL 4
6.10 British GT. 6.35 FIM
Superbike World Championship.
7.05 XTERRA England. 8.00 The
Morning Line. 9.00 The American
Football Show. 10.00 Frasier. (R)
10.30 Everybody Loves Raymond (R)
10.30 Everybody Loves Raymond (R)
11.30 The Big Bang Theory (R)
11.30 The Big Ba

suddenly turned on its nead.

(R)

Grand Designs. Kevin

McCloud follows a couple's

project to transform a 1960s

forester's lodge into a unique

Japanese home, complete

with a tatami room and

sliding paper walls. (R)

Film: The Adjustment

Bureau. (2011) Premiere. A

politician discovers shadowy

figures are manipulating his

life and tries to fight the fate

they have planned for him.

Sci-fit briller, with Matt

Damon and Emily Blunt.

5 Film: The Hole. (2009) 9.00

Damon and Emily Bruin.

1.05 Film: The Hole. (2009)
Premiere. Two brothers left alone in their new house discover a mysterious hole in the basement. Horror, starring Chris Massoglia.

12.55 Film: 13 Assassins. (2010) 3.00 Hollyoaks. (R) 5.05 Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

5.00 Milkshake! 10.10 Power Rangers: Megaforce, 10.40 Slugterra. 11.05 The Dog Rescuers. (R) 11.35 Animal Maternity, (R) 12.35 Film: Columbo: Dead Weight. (1971) 2.10 Film: Mosquito Squadron. (1968) 4.00 Film: Battle of Britain. (1969)

Lost Heroes of World War One. (R)

6.3U Lost Heroes of World War One. (7.00 WW1's Tunnels of Death:
The Big Dig. Part one of two. An archaeological team explores First World War battlefields near the village of Messines in Belgium, uncovering trenches, bunkers and tunnels. Part of the Britain at War season. (8)
8.00 War Hero in My Family. Celebrities trace the stories of relatives who made sacrifices during times of var. Chris Tarrant and Lisa Faulkner learn about the heroes in their families. Part of the Britain at War season. (8)

of the britain at ...
(R)

5 New Weekend.
Film: A Fistful of Dollars.
(1964) A nameless
qunslinger rides into a town
split by feuding families, and
plays them off against each
other. Sergio Leone's
Western, starring Clint
Eastwood.

Eastwood.

11.05 CSI: Crime Scene
Investigation. Henry's
birthday celebrations take an
unusual turn. (R)

12.00 SuperCasino. 4.00
Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 4.25
Make It Big. (R) 4.50 Roary the
Racing Car. (R) 5.00 Angels or Real
Racing Car. (R) 5.50 Hana's
Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes 2: The Sequel 7.15 Doctor Who 8.00 Top Gear 9.00 Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End (2007) 11.40 Family Guy

7.00 Africa 8.00 Lost Kingdoms of Africa 9.00 The Young Montalbano 10.55 Wellington Bomber 11.55 Otis Redding: Soul Ambassador

3.30 Peter Andre: My Life 4.30 You've Been Framed! 5.00 You've Been Framed! & Famous 6.00 Film Step Up 2: The Streets (2008) 8.00 Film: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) 10.15 The Xtra Factor 11.15 Celebrity Juice

2.55 Agatha Christie's Marple 4.55 A Touch of Frost **7.00** Rosemary & Thyme **8.00** Foyle's War **10.00** Bomb Girls **11.00** Wire in the Blood

ITV4
3.00 British Superbike
Championship Highlights 4.00
Film: Superman IV: The Quest for
Peace (1987) 6.00 Storage Wars
7.00 I Want That Car 8.00
Hornblower 10.10 Film: Backdraft
(1991)

4.10 Rules of Engagement 5.05 How I Met Your Mother 6.05 The Big Bang Theory 7.00 How I Met Your Mother 7.30 Suburgatory 8.00 New Girl 9.00 Film: GI Joe: The Rise of Cobra (2009) Action adventure, starring Channing Tatum. 11.20 Film: Planes, Trains and Automobiles (1987)

Film4
2.40 The Thirty-Nine Steps (1978)
4.45 Ladyhawke (1985) 7.05 17
Again (2009) Comedy, starring
Matthew Perry and Zac Efron. 9.00
Date Night (2010) 10.45 The
Crazies (2010)

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 13.10.13

CHOICE



Lily James

Downton Abbey ITV, 9pm

Well. last week's house party turned out to be rather more exciting that anyone expected, didn't it? Now the fallout appears to have opened up a whole new can of worms. Perhaps a break in London will help cheer everyone up. Actually, don't hold your breath on that because it looks as if the trip will give Sir John Bullock a chance to reveal his true colours; thankfully, Rose does find a knight in shining armour, Meanwhile, Lady Edith's relationship with Gregson continues to develop after he shares his plans with her - goodness only knows what her father will say when he finds out.

BBC₁

6.00 Live Formula 1: Japanese Grand Prix. 9.15 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.15 Sunday Morning Live 2013. 11.15 Sunday Politics. 12.30 Escape to the Country 1. 10.8 BBC News, Weather. 1.15 Bargain Hunt. (P) 2.00 Formula 1: Japanense Grand 4.15 Roplay 4.0 Taleghamense Orand 4.15 Roplay 4.0 Taleghamense The Great British Year. (P) 5.50 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

- Countryfile. John Craven Somerset and presents
- archive items.

 7.20 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman announce which two couples are in the dance-off, Andrea Bocelli sings a classic love song and the professional dancers perform a group routine.

 8.00 Antiques Part.
- routine.

 8.00 Antiques Roadshow. The experts visit Towneley Hall near Burnley in Lancashire, where items include a curious collection of the handbags and a centurieshandbags and a centurieshandbags and a centurieshandbags and part of the handbags and part of the handbag
- valuations.

 By Any Means. The team tries to prove the guilt of a couple who have been cleared of stealing £3million from their children's charity fund, but a journalist's own digging puts the case at risk 10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather
- weathers: 10.25 Film: Armageddon. (1998) Sci-fi thriller, with Bruce Willis, Ben Affleck, Liv Tyler, Michael Clarke Duncan and Billy Bob Thornton.

12.45 Weatherview. 12.50 BBC

6.00 This Is BBC Two. 6.05 Film: Great Day, (1945) 7.25 Gardeners' World, (R) 7.55 The Beechgrove Garden. 8.25 Live MotoGP. 10.00 Saturday Kitnen Best Bites. 11.30 What to Eat Now. (R) 12.00 What to Eat Now. (R) 12.00 What to Eat Now. (R) 12.00 What That E100K Built. (R) 5.00 Flog It! 6.00 Great British Railway Journeys. Michael Portillo visits Hadrian's Wall. (R) 6.30 The Great British Bake Off.

- 6.30 The Great British Bake Off.
- The Ginge, the Geordie and the Geek. Ventriloquist Bob ше чеек. ventriloquist В causes heartbreak for his
- puppet.

 8.00 How to Build: A Super Car.
 How the McLaren racing
 team used Formula One
 technology to design and
 construct the MP4-12C road
 car. Featuring contributions
 by Ron Dennis, Lewis
 Hamilton and Jenson Button.
 (R)
- (R)
 9.00 The Ottomans: Europe's
 Muslim Emperors. Rageh
 Omaar compares the reigns
 of Suleiman the Magnificent
 and Abdul Hamid II.
 10.00 The Wrong Mans. Sam and
 Phil go on the run. (R)
 10.30 UKL. Extended edition.
 With Sandi Toksvig, Trevor
 Noah and Jason Manford.
 11.15 Never Mind the Buzzoocks.
 Peter Andre hosts, with

- 11.15 Never Mind the Buzzoocks.
 Peter Andre hosts, with
 Jason Gardiner, Ana
 Matronic, Charles Cave and
 Tony Law. (R)

 11.45 Mock the Week. With Chris
 Addison, Hugh Dennis and
 Andy Parsons. Last in the
 series. (R)

 12.15 Film: Awaydays. (2009)
 1.55 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R)
 2.50 Holby City. (R) 3.50 This Is
 BBC Two.

Adventures of Badou, 6. 19 Mat Hatter Chronicles, (16. 35 Dio Garinals, (19. 7. 10 Canimals, (19. 7. 25 Sooty, 7. 35 Horrid Henry, (19. 7. 25 Horrid Henry, (19. 8. 10 Almost Naked Animals, (19. 8. 15 Bottom Knocker Street, 8. 30 Fish Hooks, 9. 45 Fish Hooks, 9. 30 Big Time Rush, 9. 25 TIV News, 9. 30 Ade in Britain, (19. 30 Fish Hooks, 9. 30 Fish Hooks

- 6.45 ITV News; Weather.
 7.00 Coronation Street. Hourlong episode. David receives the results of Lily's DNA test.
- The X Factor Results.

 Dermot O'Leary reveals the names of the acts who are safe, and the two least popular have to sing for survival, before one of them
- Downton Abbey. In the aftermath of the eventful party, Mary is forced to answer a pressing question about her future. Meanwhile Carson reveals surprisingly intimate details about his
- former life.

 10.05 ITV News; Weather.

 10.20 Film: Senna. (2010)
 Premiere. Documentary
 about Formula One driver
 Ayrton Senna.
- 12.20 The Store. 2.25 British Superbike Championship Superbike Championship Highlights. **3.15** Motorsport UK. **4.05** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The American Football Show. (R) 7.30 The Hever Castle Triathlon. 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 1.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 1.30 The Simpsons. (R) 2.30 Film: Mighty Joe Young. (1998) 4.40 Film: Fury Vergeance. (2010)
6.30 Channel 4 News.
7.00 World's Weirdest Weather.
Alex Beresford discovers

- Alex Beresford discovers how an unusual combination of weather phenomena created deadly storms in 1953, which resulted in some of the UK's worst flooding. Last in the series. (R)
- (R)
 Kevin McCloud's Man Made
 Home. With the main
 structure in place, Kevin
 looks to add a few final
 touches to his coastal
 retreat, installing a solarpowered shower and a
 floating beach bar. Last in the
 series
- series."
 Homeland. Saul tries to track down those responsible for the attack on Langley and recruits an unlikely expert to follow the money trail, while Carrie learns who she can really trust
- trust.

 10.00 Was It Something I Said?

 Panel show with quests Ed Panei snow, with guests Byrne and Gabby Logan
- Byrne and Gabby Logan.

 10.35 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. With
 Nicole Scherzinger, Johnny
 Knoxville and Gok Wan. (R)

 11.40 Gogglebox. (R)

 12.25 Paddy's TV Guide. (R) 1.10
 American Football Live. 4.45 British

 GT. (R) 5.15 Countdown. (R) 5.55
 River Cottage Bites. (R)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5
6.00 Milkshakel: Peppa Pig. 6.05
Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Fifi
and the Flowertots. (R) 6.25 Bubble
Gupples. (R) 6.40 The Mr Men
Show. (R) 6.50 Choles Closet. (R)
7.00 Robarb and Sussaina Cor. 25
Make Way for Noddy. (R) 7.40 City
of Friends. (R) 7.50 Berta Adventures. (R) 7.55
Little Princess. (R) 8.10 The
Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and
His Best Friend Corly. (R) 8.25
Angelina Ballerina. (R) 8.45 Mon.
(R) 8.30 Milkshakel Monkey.
Mon. (R) 8.30 Milkshakel Monkey.
Kingdom. (R) 9.15 Toby's
Travelling Circus. (R) 9.45 Jelly
Jamm. (R) 10.00 Power Rangers:
Super Samural. (R) 10.30
Slugterra. 11.00 Jungle Bables:
Tarsier Tails. (R) 11.30 Film:
Meraules. (1997) 6.35 Film:
Meraules. (1997) 6.35 Film:
Superman II. (1980)
1.55 Film:
Meraules. (1997) 6.35 Film:
Superman III. (1983)
7.55 S News Weekend.

Film: Angels & Demons. (2009) Premiere, Academic (2009) Premiere. Academic adventurer Robert Langdon is called in by the Vatican to search for four kidnapped men in line to become Pope. Thriller sequel, with Tom Hanks and Ewan McGregor.

11.45 Film: Vantage Point. (2008) Thriller, starring Dennis Quaid.

1.35 SuperCasino. 3.55 Michaela's

Uuaid.
1.35 SuperCasino. 3.55 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 4.20 Make It Big. (R) 4.50 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.00 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.05 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.20 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.25 The Funky Valley Show. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.50 Hana's Helpline. (R) 6.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.50 Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

0 Formula 1: Japanese Grand x Highlights **8.00 Film:** Chicken n (2000) **9.20** Great TV Mistakes 10.00 Family Guy 10.45 Some Girls
11.15 American Dad!

7.00 Miss Marple 7.50 Britain's Wild Places: The Sheep Beside the Seaside 8.00 The Review Show Special: Man Booker Award 9.00 Frost on Interviews 10.00 Comed Connections 10.40 Medieval Live

ITV2
2.30 Film: The Little Vampire (2000)
4.25 Film: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters
Unleashed (2004) 6.15 Film: Hulk
(2003) 9.00 The Xtra Factor 11.00
The Only Way Is Essex 10.50 Utterly
Outrageous Celebrity Frock Ups
11.50 Tricked

2.55 Foyle's War 4.55 Film: Are You Being Served? (1977) 7.00 Lewis 9.00 The Classic BRIT Awards 2013 10.35 Film: The Breakfast Club

ITV4
10.45 Live British Touring Car
Championship 6.30 World of Sport:
Crazy Racing 6.40 Police, Camera,
Action! 7.15 Film: Police Academy
4: Citizens on Patrol (1987) 9.00
Film: City Slickers (1991) 11.20
Film: Blazing Saddles (1974)

E4
3.45 How I Met Your Mother 5.40
The Big Bang Theory 7.10 Rules of
Engagement 7.35 Film: Ever After: A
Cinderella Story (1998) 10.00 New
Rude Tube 11.00 How I Met Your
Mother 11.30 Don't Trust the B****
in Apartment 23

Film4 2.55 Clueless (1995) 4.50 The Golden Child (1986) 6.40 Mona Lisa Smile (2003) 9.00 Skyline (2010) 10.50 Inglourious Basterds (2009)

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PLUMBING & HEATING

What's On!

Film Choices

Constantine, Channel 5, 11pm

Constantine, Analiter 5, Tipin Exorcist John Constantine is cursed with the ability to see spirits stalking the Earth, and grudgingly takes on the forces of evil, hoping his actions will earn him a place in heaven. However, he is told he has terminal cancer and time for salvation is running out — unless a policewoman investigating her twin sister's death can find the key to saving his soul. Supernatural thriller, starring Keanu Reeves and Rachel Weisz. (2005)

The Girl in the Park, BBC1, 11.25pm
A grieving mother withdraws from her friends and family after her three-year-old daughter disappears in Central Park. Fifteen years later she befriends an 18-year-old conwoman with a chequered past, and begins to believe the troubled teenager could be her own long-lost child. Drama, starring Sigourney Weaver. (2007)

No Way Out, BBC1, 11.45pm
A navy officer unwittingly has an affair with a politician's mistress, and becomes involved in the investigation after she is murdered. However, he soon suspects the plan is to find a scapegoat rather than the real killer and that he is the most likely candidate to take the fall. Political thriller, starring Kevin Costner. (1987)



ls & Demons, Friday, Channel 5, 11pm

Damn the Defiant!, Channel 4, 1,10pm

The commander of a British warship fighting in the Napoleonic campaign faces bitter opposition from his right-hand man, a cruel and sadistic officer hated by the crew. In a battle of wills between the pair, the captain's second-in-command tries to provoke his leader's wrath by tormenting his son, an officer on the vessel. Drama, starring Alec Guinness and Anthony Quayle. (1962)

Bowfinger, ITV, 10.35pm

A struggling Hollywood producer comes up with a cunning plan to splice secretly filmed footage of a famous action star into his latest low-budget sci-fi movie to give it a veneer of quality. However, his efforts drive the bewildered actor into having paranoid delusions that aliens really have invaded the Earth. Comedy, starring Steve Martin and Eddie Murphy. (1999)

Academic adventurer Robert Langdon is called in by the Vatican to deal with a crisis. The Pope has died and the four cardinals in line to be his successor have all been abducted by a mysterious sect that is threatenin to murder them. Thriller sequel to The Da Vinci Code, with Tom Hanks and Ewan McGregor, (2009)

Pick of the Week

Guests try to find the right words for David

ere it is, just what the world needed – another comedy panel show. Yep, there are quite a few about at the moment, and new ones have to work doubly hard to make themselves stand out.

Luckily, Was it Something I Said? is already a cut above much of the rest of the opposition. After all, it's hosted by David Mitchell who, having appeared many times on Would I Lie to You? and QI, is well-qualified to pose the questions here.

The team captains are also very unny men indeed – Micky Flanagan and Richard Ayoade.

For those who missed last week's opening edition, the format is simple two teams must answer questions based on quotations that can come from anywhere, including books, films, interviews and the internet.

Mitchell himself is probably the Mitchell himself is probably the best person to explain more about it: "It's a quiz where people have to work out who said certain things or what certain people have said. So it's about celebrities, historical figures, current affairs and history. amusing way of watching some comedians trying to solve a quiz about famous people and vaguely impart some interesting information about them at the same time."

The show marks the first time Mitchell has hosted such a programme, and he admits it's harder work than it looks.

"Being the host is a very different Definition to the state of the time, while managing the quiz and working out what to say to link the rounds. The great thing about being in the host's chair is that you can make yourself look so knowledgeable.

"But it can be tricky. Usually the panellists are people who are bright and want to talk and you need them and want to talk and you need them to keep talking, so you can't slap them down hard because they might go quiet and then you're stuck. So it is my policy generally to let them talk and drift. Some of the best material comes when things are allowed to run and breathe. run and breathe.

we wanted it off-the-cuff and as organic and natural as possible, so I tried not to be too school-masterly about things. Fortunately, I have no natural authority, so it's very easy for me to do that!"

Mitchell would probably make a good panellist on this show - he even has a favourite quote.

"It's attributed to Voltaire, but people say it wasn't actually him... Either way it is a very wise thing – 'I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it'.

who say hornible things should be silenced rather than answered. I think we'd be a more healthy society if people used their freedom of speech to reply to and rebuke people who say things they hate rather than use the law to silence them."

This week, Micky is reunited with his I Love My Country host Gabby Logan, while comedian Ed Byrne is the other guest panellist.



David Mitchell hosts Was It Something I Said?, Sunday, Channel 4, 10pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY The Gadget Show

Channel 5, 8pm

t's back for an 18th series, and will soon celebrate its 250th edition, but what makes The Gadget Show so watchable? Well, it could be the fact that as well as putting the latest innovations to the test, explains them in a way that's accessible to ever the most technologically challenged viewer. So, if you've been trying to get your head around the concept of this year's most talked-about piece of kit, Google Glass, all should become clear as Rachel Riley and Jason Bradbury check it out.

Stephen Fry: Out There

first stepped into the spotlight as a young comedian back in the 1980s; it's something we're amiliar with and, in fact, it would probably be fair to say that nobody really thinks about his sexuality any more. He's just Stephen Fry, that much-loved bloke off the telly. However, for some people, noming out isn't easy; in fact, it can cost them their ives. In this new, two-part documentary, Stephen is ravelling the globe to find out how different countries and cultures regard homosexuality. He begins his journey close to home by meeting Elton John and David Furnish.

TUESDAY

Live International Football

evening, as they host Poland at Wembley Stadium

in their final Group H World Cup qualifier. There were a number of permutations that could affect were a furnise or permitations that could affect the outcome of this group coming into the last two rounds of fixtures, which began with matches last Friday. However, one thing for certain is that Roy Hodgson's men will want to perform better than they did in the reverse fixture at Warsaw's National Stadium last October, which finished in a 1-1 draw. That original fixture had to be postponed until the following day due to a torrential downpour, and while the conditions were still not conducive to flowing football, the Poles arguably did a better job of adapting to the circumstances

WEDNESDAY

When Gastric Bands Go Wrong

Channel 5, 9pm
These days, gastric bands provide a quick fix for those desperate to spur on weight loss, and sure we hear of success stories in the women's mags and on television chat shows, but rarely do we hear of the gastric bands gone wrong. And now you're in for a shock. This documentary reveals the stories of people who have suffered devastating consequences when their gastric bands and surgery didn't go according to plan, including 38-year-old David, who lost over 24 stone in two years after having a gastric bypass operation. Initially he was thrilled with the results, but when his skin failed to tighten, he was left with over five stone of excess skin. Now, he's struggling to find a surgeor willing to help him.

The One and Only Cilla Black

or sending their best regards via video

Whether you remember first hearing her on the radio in the 1960s or seeing her on the TV in the 1980s and 1990s, there's no doubt that Cilla Black is a showbiz institution. Still, it may come as a shock to some fans to realise that it's now 50 years since she became a star. And ITV, the channel which gave us Surprise Surprise and Blind Date, couldn't let the anniversary pass without a celebration. Her old mate Paul O'Grady, is our host, while plenty of other famous friends, ranging from Amanda Holden to Ringo Starr, will either be dropping by in person

THURSDAY

ITV, 8.30pm Michael Buerk and Bettany Hughes are back for a new series, and this time the show really is living up to its title. The first run saw the

programme-makers working with the British Museum's Portable Antiquities Scheme, which is responsible for all finds in England and Wales, but now Treasure Trove Scotland and the Ulster Museum

board. However, we're still in England for the first episode as broadcaster and anthropologist Mary Ann Ochota hears the story of a remarkable find in Lincolnshire. In 2010, recycling plant-worker Steve Allenby dug up several pieces of copper alloy, which were initially assumed to pieces of unexploded munitions. In fact, they were from something older and much, much rare

FRIDAY

Walrus: Two Tonne Tusker - Natural World BBC2, 9pm

There's been plenty of attention given to the difficulties of breeding pandas in captivity over the year, but they're not the only animals which present a challenge when it comes to reproduction. Pacific walruses are notoriously hard to breed in captivity and one person who knows this only too well is zoological and marine mammal reproductive physiologist Holley Muraco. This documentary sees her head out to their breeding grounds in Alaska to see if she can find any inspiration in the wild.

Man Down

Channel 4, 9.30pm
Actor and comic Greg Davies isn't daft. He knows that there are worse things you could do than grab a handful of your equally successful mates and a nation of your equally successful males and write a comedy starring them. So that's what he did. He's written and stars in this new series which is sure to please his fans no end. He stars as Dan, a teacher whose world seems to be at near collapse, and his weird and wonderful best friends provide little respite. In this first episode, Dan has a bad day when he loses his trousers.

Short breaks, holidays and long haul adventures to destinations near and far

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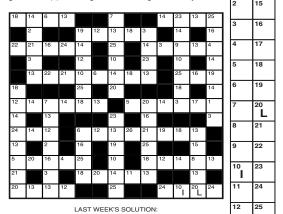
Puzzler

Brain Gym

No.242

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



| X | H | Y | K | E | R | V | O | D | S | U

W J M F P L Z T A G B N

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

- 7. It's drunk to a saint
- 8. There's no let up
- for the rich (7) 9. Insect swallows fruit
- for nourishment (7)
- 10. Not seeing a win-
- dow-screen (5) 12. Will it give a ghostly light? (6,4)
- 15. Nominally it forms
- low degree (7)

- 1. Tear things to pieces, and put them in order again! (10)
- 2. It's the custom to put it on (5)
- 3. It may spoil the look of a lid (4) 4. Can he carry his
- drink? (6) 5. How to get browned
- off (8) 6. Point wrongly
- claimed (7) 11. Cause of dejection in weathermen?
- (10)13. Liking for a swansong (8)
- 14 He knows the drill presumably (7)
- 16. A portion for each
- 17. It burns Alf up, then me! (5)
- 20. This nation is sound

Quick Clues:

Across

- 8. Calculate (7)
- 9. Unfathomable (7)
- 10. Centre (5)
- 12. Tyranny (10)
- 15. Inexpert (10)
- 18. Call forth (5)
 - **19.** Withdraw (7)
 - 21. Deliberative assembly (7)

- 1. Spotless (10)

- 6. Crazy (7)
- 11. Unable to speak out (6-4)
- 14. Bold decorative style (7)

- 2. Prophetess (5)
- 3. Check (4)
- 4. Of the eye (6)
- 5. Stress (8)

- 13. Sham (8)

- 17. Indistinct (5)

Sudoku

2			6	8		3		5
			2				4	
6		4			3			7
4		1				П		
7	3			9	5		6	4
					7	2		1
5			3			4		9
	4				6			
		7		4	1			6

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains



LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Barometer; 8 Use; 9 Train driver; 11 Unarmed; 12 Reign; 13 Mensce; 15 Leader; 17 Rates; 18 Succeed; 20 Illogically; 22 Elm; 23 Dispenser, Down: 2 Air; 3 Minim; 4 Tirade; 5 Reverie; 6 Hurried meal; 7 Seeing red; 10 Against time; 11 Unmarried; 14 Casteld; 16 Usages; 19 Cache; 21 Lie. OUICK - Across: 17 ransient; 8 Owe; 9 Destruction; 11 Penance; 12 Ideal; 13 Roused; 15 Allege; 17 Erase; 18 Valiant; 20 Interjacent; 22 Act; 23 Disengage. Down: 2 Rue; 3 Siren; 4 Eschew; 5 Trivial; 6 Confederate; 7 Recollect; 10 Singularity; 11 Perpetual; 14 Erected; 16 Averts; 19 Learn; 21 Nag.



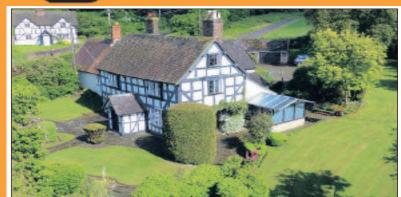


"Don't know how it works but it does, it's amazing Simon B

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A half timbered grade II listed property reported to be one of the oldest properties in Morville, with adjoining two bedroom bungalow. The ernal Tudor facade together with the interior of the property has a wealth of character. The spacious accommodation comprising; dining kitchen with walk in pantry, conservatory, lounge, sitting room, cloakroom area and workshop/utility room above cellar. On the first floor there are three double bedrooms, two bathrooms and two further attic rooms which could become bedrooms. Adjacent to the house and smeeted by a short corridor is an early 20th century bungalow which was refurbished in the late 1980s to form a two bedroom dwelling with kitchen, lounge, two bedrooms and bathroom. The house and bungalow are set in established landscaped gardens extending to approximately % of an acre to include outbuildings with, garaging, workshop and stores. Adjoining the property is a paddock extending to approximately 2.718 acres (1.100 ha) which is accessed by a separate right of way and is available by separate negotiation. There is tremendous scope for the main house to have restoration/refurbishment works carried out when more original features may be revealed. The bungalow has a potential to provide further living accommodation to the main house or to remain as rental property which generates an investment income. The village of Morville is well positioned, providing easy access to the towns of, Ludlow, Shrewsbury, Wolverhampton, Kidderminster and Telford. The property is a short driving distance from the Historic Market Town of Bridgnorth. A unique opportunity to acquire a property of character.







An individual and spacious detached four bedroom house, situated in a elevated rural position at Trimpley with tremendous views over neighbouring fields towards the Wyre Forest with the Clee Hills in the distance. The well presented accommodation briefly comprises; entrance porch, reception hall, through lounge, sitting room, separate dining room, kitchen and sun lounge to ground floor. Four bedrooms with ensuite to master bedroom and family bathroom to first floor. The accommodation offers the potential to be adapted to create an annex for a dependant relative, subject to necessary consents. Tarmacadam driveway and double garage to front elevation with mature gardens surrounding. The property benefits from oil fired central heating and is mainly UPVC double glazed. Freehold. Viewing is highly recommended. EPC=D. TRIMPLEY, BEWDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE. £475,000

MORVILLE, NR BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE. £475,000

Property



A unique chance to buy listed property

bered Grade II listed property, reported to be one of the oldest properties in Morville, and is on the market for offers based around £475,000.

Dased around £4/5,000.

The external Tudor facade together with the interior of the property has a wealth of character and spacious accommodation comprising; dining kitchen with walk-in pantry, conservatory, lounge, sitting room, cloakroom and workshop/utility room above cellar and an adjoining two bedroom bungalow. On the first floor are three double bedrooms, two bathrooms and two further attic rooms.

two further attic rooms.

Adjacent to the house is an early 20th century bungalow which was refurbished in the late 1980s to form a two-bedroom dwelling with kitchen, leurge and bethreom.

refurbished in the late 1980s to form a two-bedroom dwelling with kitchen, lounge and bathroom.

The house and bungalow are set in established landscaped gardens extending to approximately three quarters of an acre to include outbuild-



Call the agent Doolittle & Dalley for further details of Ercall House in Morville

Gall the agent Doolittle & Dalley for further details of Ercall House in Morville in Ings with garage, workshop and stores. accommodation to the main house or to Adjoining the property is a paddock extending to approximately 2.7 acres which is accessed by a separate right of way and is available by separate negotiation.

There is tremendous scope for the main house to have restoration/refurbishment works and the bungalow has potential to provide further living believe the main house in Morville is emain as rental property which generates an investment income.

There is tremendous scope for the main house to have restoration/refurbishment works and the bungalow has potential to provide further living

Detached situated in a popular village location



Call Homepoint for details of the house at Clifton Street

A WELL-PRESENTED, detached home within a popular village area, 129 Clifton Street, Sedgley is close to local schools, amenities and shops.

It is for sale through HomePoint Estate Agents at

has an entrance hall, lounge with dining area and It has an entrance hall, lounge with dining area and sliding doors to the rear garden, a modern kitchen with some integrated appliances, a downstairs cloakroom, first floor large master bedroom and two further bedrooms and a bathroom, gas central heating, double glazing and a driveway with off-road parking leading to a garage.

There is also a spacious rear garden with a patio area and a fish pond. Sedgley is a popular village between Wolverhampton and Dudley and part of the Dudley Metropolitan Borough.

For further information contact HomePoint Estate

For further information contact HomePoint Estate Agents on 01902 766388 or visit their website at www.homepoint.co.uk

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COT LANE WORDSLEY

A delightfully refurbished three bedroom detached residence situated in a highly desirable location with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, lounge/diner, kitchen, utility room, conservatory, three bedrooms and bathroom. The property further boasts gas central heating, double glazing, rear garage/store, decked terrace and enclosed lawned rear garden and front gated private driveway with lawned foregarden. NHFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£950PCM





CRESSETT LANE BROCKMOOR

A well presented three bedroom semi detached property with accommodation to comprise of: Porch, Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from having gas central heating, double glazing, rear courtyard style garden and front gravelled driveway to single garage.

UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: MAY SMOKERS: NO

£595PCM





TREFOIL GARDENS AMBLECOTE

A beautifully presented two bedroom first floor Apartment in this popular and desirable development with accommodation to comprise of: Communal Entrance with entry phone system and staircase to first floor, private entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from having double glazing, gas central heating, communal grounds and secure gated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = B DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£595PCM





An extremely well presented three bedroom family home situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Porch, entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility room, shower room, three bedrooms and bathroom. The properly further benefits from having Gas central heating, double glazing, rear garden with patio, raised lawned area and decked terrace and front gravelled driveway affording off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO





DUDLEY ROAD SEDGLEY

A three bedroom detached property within walking distance to the centre of Sedgley Village. Accommodation comprises: Kitchen/Diner with newly fitted kitchen, Lounge, Dining Room downstairs W/C Three bedrooms, Bathroom with full suite and shower. The Property further benefits from a garage and gas central heating. EPC RATING: D UNFURNINSHED DSS: No. CHILDREN: Yes PETS: May consider SMOKERS: No.





OVERMAN CLOSE LYE

A superb modern end mews property situated in a small cul-de-sac location with accommodation to comprise: kitchen, downstairs WC, lounge with staircase to two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from central heating, double glazing, lawned foregarden with off road parking to the side and enclosed rear garden laid to lawn. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO PETS:NO CHILDREN:YES SMOKERS:NO



intendent of the second of the

£650PCM



ocation, the accommodation comprises or antrance hall, lounge fitted kitchen, master bedroom with en-suite and second bedroom, the property benefits from gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. J £650PCM



MADISON AVENUE MERRY

amenties. The accommodation comprises to Entrance hall, lounge/dining area, kitchen, two bedrooms master with en-suite and bathroom. The property further benefits from central heating and double glazing. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = B DSS:NO PETS:NO CHILDREN:NO SMOKERS:NO £550PCM



well as off road parking and enclosed irden. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E CHILDREN: YES SMOKERS: NO

£550PCM





MORVALE GARDENS LYE

Three is a rear enclosed garden with lawn and patio inhere is a rear enclosed garden with lawn and patio garage. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING: D DSS: NO PETS: NO CHILDREN: YES SMOKERS: NO

£525PCM



MADISON AVENUE MERRY HILL

xtremely well presented two bedroom thir apartment situated in a popular residentia on close to Merry Hill Centre, Accommodatio EPC RATING = B CHILDREN:YES PETS:NO

£525PCM



HAMMERSLEY CLOSE

D SS:NO PETS:NO MOKERS:NO CHILDREN: YES

£525PCM



CLARENCE STREET UPPER

An extremely well presented two bedroom terrace properly situated in a popular residential terrace properly situated in a popular residential shall, downstairs WC, Open plan lourige with kitchen area. Two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from double glazing and gas central heating. UNFURNISHED PEC RATING - B DSS: MAY CONSIDER CHILDRENYES - BONO SMOKERS:NO \$525PCM



THE EMBANKMENT MERRY

Centre, Accommodation comprises of Videe entry system, hallway, fitted kitchen, lounge, diner, bathroom and two bedrooms, masten having en-suite shower room. Unfurnished EPC RATING: D DSS:NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO CHILDERENMAY CONSIDER £525PCM



Jite room and the state of the e heating, communal gardens and ng. UNFURNISHED = C PETS: No CHILDREN: No



WALTERS ROW DUDLEY

emi detaciónesidential locatión. AcuaJ Kitchen, lounge, Two his Detaveitis from
esta de la compania del compania de la compania de la compania del compania de la compania de la compania de la compania del compania





HIGH STREET WORDSLEY

£495PCM



£495PCM



open; also believes from an alloca lazing, small fore Garden and alloca arking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E SS: NO SMOKERS: NO PETS: HILDREN: YES £435PCM



benefits from gas central heating, double glazing, allocated Parking, garden and alarm UNFURNISHED EPC RATING =C DSS:NO PETS: NO SMOKERS:NO CHILDREN:NO



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parking space. L = F CHILDREN:YES PETS:NO

£425 00 PCM



LOWER HIGH STREET further benefits from naving COD - Double Glazing.

UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO £395PCM



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BRETTELL LANE AMBLECOTE

A spacious one bedroom first floor flat located for easy access to Merry Hill centre with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, bedroom one and battroom. The properly further benefits from having gas central heating, and double glazing. DSS: MAY CONSIDER OHLDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: OHLDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS:



DOVE DRIVE AMBLECOTE

bathroom with shower and d n. The property further benefits electric panel heating and off UNFURNISHED EPC RATI S: NO PETS: NO CHILDREI parking.

DSS: NO PE10...
SMOKERS :NO
£360PCM

Motoring

Compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

New chapter in history of Peugeot hatches

back used to guarantee success for manufacturers but demand is

nothing like it used to be.

So it's a bit of a surprise to see Peugeot investing heavily in the 208GTi – even if target sales are only around 2,000 in the UK for the

sales are only around 2,000 in the consequent.

Perhaps it's the company's 30-year history of producing successful hot hatches that has convinced Peugeot the GTi will capture a slice of a market which includes Fiesta ST and Renaultsport Clio.

What strikes you first about the 208 is its subtle appearance. In fact it doesn't look much different from the regular three-door 208. But this is the most powerful 208 yet.

Spoiler

Outwardly the main things setting the GTi

Spoiler

Outwardly the main things setting the GTi apart from the rest of the 208 range are a 'chequered flag' grille, boot spoiler, chunkier side stills and wheel arch extensions housing a set of 17in alloys.

Other distinguishing marks include red 'GTi' emblems on its C-pillars and the theme continues inside, with red stitching for the central vent surrounds, gearknob, seatbelts and door handles.

But while outwardly the GTi has very little

But while outwardly the GTi has very little But while outwardy the (711 has very little to attract the eye of today's hot hatch enthusiast there's a powerful engine, firm suspension and a wider track and a lower ride height to improve handling.

There's easily enough grip on offer and you can corner as hard as you want to and enjoy



The Peugeot 208GTi has a top speed of 143mph, Prices start from £18.895

using the six-speed manual gearbox with good ratios.

Quite simply this 208 does everything you ask of it but is a more comfortable ride than a lot of the competition out there, which might not be what the hot hatch enthusiast is really

But buyers won't be disappointed with per-formance. In fact this GTi is a bit of a wolf in sheep 's clothing. There's a top speed of

143mph, 0-62mph in 6.8 seconds, 200bhp and 275Nm of torque.
Peugeot claims average fuel consumption of 48mpg and 139g/km CO2 emissions which means it will be cheap enough to run. I loved the cloth and leather sports seats and found plenty of kit to keep me interested including a DAB radio, rear parking sensors and automatic lights and wipers as standard. Highlights include the leather finish across the dashboard



The stylish interior of the 208GTi, with a leather finish across the dashboard

and a stylish, flat-bottomed steering wheel.
On-the-road prices start at £18,895 but the test car would set you back nearer £20,000 thanks to metallic paint, cornering assist fog lights and a multifunction colour touch-screen navigation upgrade.
Peugeot's biggest problem will be whether hot hatch fans feel the 208GTi is different enough from the rest of the sector to tempt them to part with their money. Time will tell.

Bumper to bumper

Peugeot 208

Model: 1.6 GTi 3-door Price: £18,895 Top speed: 143mph 0-62mph: 6.8secs Combined fuel: 47.9mpg

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Express & Stai

SPORT

Four-ce is with How as match is sixed up

Tividale 6 Gornal Athletic 0 TIVIDALE made it eight out of eight in the league, with a one-sided demolition of local rivals Gornal Athletic.

Tividale went ahead in the

rivals Gornal Athletic
Tividale went ahead in the second minute when Ryan Winwood skinned his marker and his cross was met at the near post by Stuart How and his header gave Gornal keeper Ryan Cheshire no chance.
Tividale went to 2-0 when Michael Wardle cut in from the flank and his speculative shot should not have troubled Cheshire, but the keeper failed to get enough on it and ended up just palming it into the net.

The second half was only three minutes old when the Winwood and How combination struck again. This time How heading home a Winwood cross.

On 51 minutes it was 4-0 from How's hat-trick Five minutes later How scored his fourth and Tividale's fifth when a loose pass fell to him and he curled a first time effort past Cheshire.

How was substituted and his replacement Karl Edwards sent his marker and Cheshire the wrong way and buried the 6th.

Ben's brace keeps Yeltz cup run alive

Eastwoood Town 0
Halesowen Town 3
HOT-SHOT Ben Haseley
took his tally for the season
to 13 with two goals as Halesowen eased through to the
next round of the FA Trophy
and a home tie with St
Neots.
After a slow start, Haseley
opened the scoring on 19
minutes when he got on the

opened the scoring on 19 minutes when he got on the end of a long throw from Tom Tonks to crash the ball

He scored his second, nine

He scored his second, nine minutes later when he converted from a fine cross by Elliot Turner. Halesowen suffered a blow just after the break when Iyesden Christie suffered a hamstring injury and was replaced by Nigel Penney.

But it didn't put them off their pace and they continued to create chances, their reward coming on 74 minutes when the impressive Chris Laight scored with a cross/shot to make it 3-0.

Match drawn and so are yellow cards



The Robins had six players booked in the first half – all for dissent – and finally lost Alex Perry to an 85th-minute sending-off.

sending-on.
Malvern, too, were frustrated with
both sides considering referee Phil
Reade's approach to be heavy-handed.
Dudley slipped to fifth in the West
Midlands Premier table after conceding

The hosts took the lead on the half-hour when top scorer Dreniz Bala rounded the on-rushing keeper and

raced on to slide the ball home ahead of Jo Endacott's attempted clearance.

But as the bookings mounted, a lack of discipline at the back cost Dudley a goal to the last kick of the half when Chris Parker found the corner of the net from the edge of the penalty box.

Dudley regained the lead just two minutes after the break. Adam Call-inswood's floated free-kick deceived everyone including Malvern keeper Charlie Weaver.

The yellow card tally reached double figures as the second half progressed and

the only surprise was that the game got to 85 minutes before a red one appeared.

to 85 minutes before a red one appeared.

Perry picked up a second yellow for a challenge in his own half and left the field. The dismissal sparked an onslaught from the visitors, who equalised four minutes later. A cross from the left was met at the far post by substitute Mark Saysell, who struck the ball back across the goal giving Robins' keeper, Tom Harper, no chance as he scrabbled to block the shot.

Thore was still time for another.

There was still time for another yellow and a final chance for Dudley as Weaver saved at the feet of Callinswood and Endacott blocked the follow-up.

Late goals keep home record for Town side

Tipton Town 2 Coventry Sphinx 0

Coventry Sphinx 0
TWO late goals by Marvin
Nisbett earned Tipton Town
a vital three points against
Coventry Sphinx and maintained their undefeated
home record.
Tipton had their best
chance to make their dominance show on 44 minutes
when a penalty was given

when a penalty was given against Sphinx for handball.

Wherton stepped up to take the spot kick only for Carl O'Neill to save with his

Carl O'Neill to save with his legs.

After the break, Pemberton had to parry a powerful Chris Sockett shot on 51 minutes as the visitors broke quickly and from the resulting corner Matthew Fowler put over the bar.

Coventry went down to 10

Fowler put over the bar Coventry went down to 10 men on 64 minutes when Fowler received a straight red for a stamp on Danny Ashton.

Nisbett redeemed himself for his first half misses after excellent play by Ben Hadley and Chris Rabone saw Nisbett have the chance to toe home from six yards to give Tipton the lead.

Nisbett sealed the game in

Nisbett sealed the game in stoppage time after more excellent work from Hadley.

Tipton now face Dunkirk at home on Saturday. Lions three

tries take the victory

Bedworth 17

Stourbridge Lions 24 STOURBRIDGE Lions travelled to Bedworth for their Midlands 2 West South

Lions scored three tries through centre Arron Boffey and wingers Danny Cox and Rhemi Blake to the home

Rhemi Blake to the home team's two.

Unfortunately the victory came at a cost to the Lions with four players injured and unlikely to be available for this week.

The worst saw contain

The worst saw captain The worst saw captain and last season's top scorer, Stuart Doolittle, taken to hospital with a shoulder injury which is likely to side-line him for up to six weeks. The Lions demonstrated they can successfully adjust and cope with a toe-to-toe struggle which augurs well for the rest of the season. This week the Lions are back in league action with a home game against Nuneaton Old Edwardians, 3pm kick off.

3pm kick off.

Win secured for Saxons with second half surge

A COMBINATION of determined opponents and poor discipline prevented the Saxons from turning first half pressure into points.

But their opponents were rarely able to threaten the Saxons' goal line and were constantly knocked back in both attack and defence. The pressure told and Preston errors gave the Saxons' three-quarters four second half tries while lock forward Nile Dacres bagged two for himself.

lock forward Nile Dacres bage
The Saxons struck by
counterattacking from a
Preston kick ahead.
A half break was set up by
Stefan Shillingford's pass
out of the tackle, a quick
ruck ball was worked to
James Rodley who drew the
last line defender and put
Shillingford clean through,
his pass put Hearn in to
score.

Scott Wright's Then

Then Scott Wright's lineout throw was picked off and captain Robbie Hurrell was penalised.
Preston outside half Lewis Allen slotted the penalty kick.
A defensive indiscretion then allowed Allen to kick Preston to a narrow lead.
The Saxons forwards continued to impose themselves in the tight and forced a penalty from Preston's under pressure front row.
It was kicked to the corner where a Hurrell catch set up

It was kicked to the corner where a Hurrell catch set up a driving maul from which Mukarati scored.

The Saxons were quickly back into action after half time, a wave of attacks culminating in Hurrell spilling a pass with the line at his mercy but advantage was being played and they kicked

Rugby

to the corner again, the ball worked to Ben Barkley who was just held out but set up quick ball for Nile Dacres to

go over.

Tu'ipolotu placed a neat chip kick for Cooksammy who raced away to score the bonus point.

bomus point.

Preston appeared to have secured a turnover but the alert Dacres pounced on some indecision managing to ground the ball first to bag his second try.

Baker then had an attempted offload grabbed by a defender but he made amends by wrestling it clear from the ensuing maul before a long Lucas Roysmith cut-out pass was worked to Cooksammy for his second try.

his second try.

To the loudest cheers of the day Ben Barkley ran clean through a tiring defence then for 60m to

defence then for 60m to score the final try under the posts. Coach Mike Umaga said: "That was a good hard-fought win, our forwards did a lot of hard graft in the first half that paid dividends."



The bodies pile up as flanker Nigel Mukarati scores the Saxons' second try from a driving maul against Preston

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Yellow streak

Game is marred by bookings

Saxon surge Second half sets side to victory



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Jackett's side are at point of reflection

Colchester 0 Wolves 3 TEN games in and we've reached Kenny Jackett's 'base camp' - now to scale the summit.

the summit.

Wolves' head coach has said all along 10 matches was the point after which he would reflect on the season so far. And, after this latest victory, he must be more than happy with the hurdles cleared as they prepare for more pressing climbs.

Jackett again insisted his rebuilt side are a work in progress and they went into this game on the back of three-and-a-half lacklustre performances in four games.

performances in four games.

Determined to make an early impression, James Henry was a livewire from the first whistle.

the first whistle.

Henry was just about the man of the match but it was a closely-debated thing, with his partner-in-crime down the right Matt Doherty, the irrepressible Kevin Doyle and superb keeper Carl Ikeme the other serious contenders.

Doherty continued his hugely impressive start to nugery impressive start to the season by winning the pivotal penalty that set Wolves on their way after a determined run that saw Luke Garbutt upended by Matt Taylor

Luke Garbutt upended by Matt Taylor.
Griffiths got ahead of Magnus Okuonghae and made it 2-0 two minutes after the break.
Then Henry finished the scoring.

Captain has scan on knee

WOLVES captain Sam Ricketts was has been undergo-ing a scan on his knee after withdrawing from international duty.

tional duty.

But head coach Kenny
Jackett is keeping his
fingers crossed his skipper
will be fit to rejoin their promotion push after the international break.

Ricketts has been playing
with the problem for several
weeks since Wales '2-1 World
Cup qualifying defeat away
to Macedonia on September
6.

Although it forwed bim to

6.

Although it forced him to miss his country's subsequent game, a 3-0 home defeat against Serbia, he has remained an ever-present for Wolves, playing every minute. minute.

minute.

Now the 31-year-old defender is ruled out of Friday's return with Macedonia and Tuesday's qualifier which is away to Relegium.

The club comes first insists Wolves boss



Bakary Sako

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett has insisted the club must come first as they assessed the extent of the fall-out of Bakary Sako's collapsed move to Nottingham Forest.
Sako missed Saturday's 3-0 win at Colchester through illness after Wolves halted talks with the Championship club on Thursday.
Forest had refused to pay a loan

Forest had refused to pay a loan fee and wouldn't enter into the terms of the agreement on a transfer that could have netted Wolves up to

The French winger was due to join

his team-mates for training at Compton on the day a tabloid report said he was going on strike to force a move through to the City Ground.

Forest, who are fourth in the Championship after a 3-1 win at Brighton on Saturday, have now twice failed to sign the winger after having a series of bids up to £3.5m rejected in the lead up to the closure of the transfer window on September 2. Sako has remained the model

professional up to now, but Wolves are aware they have an unsettled player on their hands and it remains to be seen how the latest speculation has affected him. Publicly at least,

has affected him.Publicity at least, Jackett says he is hoping to re-inte-grate Sako into the squad. "We'll talk about the situation and, as we always have done, put the club first," said the head coach.

"We need to be able to play without individual players and without Sako we've won against Port Vale and Colchester, added Jackett. "But he'll be welcome to

come back in. Hopefully he'll feel better and I expect him back in.

better and I expect him back in.

"He's an outstanding player and if
at all possible, we'd like him to stay
and play well."

Sako missed training on Thursday after ringing in sick and failed to
travel with the squad on Friday
when Wolves had their first
overnight stay of the season.

overing stay of the season. Wolves' biggest away win since last December's 4-1 at Bristol City still left them third in League One after goals from Leigh Griffiths (2) and Kevin Doyle.

Kristian grabs a bronze

KRISTIAN THOMAS has spoken of his pride after claiming an historic bronze medal at the World Gymnastics Championship.
The Wolverhampton

The Wolverhampton Olympian became the first ever British gymnast to win a world medal in the vault after a score of 15.233 yes-

after a score of 15.233 yesterday.

It capped a successful Championship in Antwerp for GB with Max Whitlock taking pommel horse silver and finishing fourth in the all-around final.

Olympic bronze medallist

Olympic profize medanisa Thomas' place was in doubt after he fractured his leg in March which ruled him out of the European Champi-

of the European Championships.
And the 24-year-old, a member of the Earls club at Halesowen, admitted he was stunned after almost missing the cut following an injury-hit year.
He said: "Three weeks ago I was still battling to try to get into the team. To nail the first vault the way I did was so special.

"It's amazing. It's been a roller-coaster year and to get that medal – I couldn't be

that medal – I couldn't be any happier. "To make the final was the first aim then to get a medal I'm over the moon, really, really happy and proud."

Saddlers' Dean is pipped to title

WALSALL boss Dean Smith has missed out on the League One Manager of the Month award – with the prize instead going to Preston boss Simon

Grayson. Smith had been nomisainth had been holdi-nated after the Saddlers claimed eight points from four games in September, including the derby win at

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GLASSBOYS POOLE IR RESOURCES

Stourbridge 5 Poole Town 2

A TREMENDOUS all-round team performance, reminiscent of some of their excellent displays during the second half of last season, saw the Glassboys bring a halt to Poole Town's unbeaten start to the season.

With both sides committed to attack and the game played right from the off at a lively pace, it made an entertaining contest.

contest.

More than 40 minutes passed before the break-through came from Stourbridge with Paul Lloyd finding Ben Billingham and his cross from the left-hand by-line found Drew Canavan unmarked in the middle and he was able to direct a he was able to direct a header back across the keeper and into the net.

Advantage

Five minutes into the second period, Stourbridge doubled their advantage following another defensive error when a weak back header from Jamie Whisken towards his own keeper enabled Billingham to nip in first before he was brought

enabled Billingham to nip in first before he was brought down by Hutchings.

The Poole custodian was rather fortunate not to be carded, but he was unable to prevent Sean Geddes finding the net from the resulting spot-kick.

In the last part of the game the Glassboys opened up the Poole defence again to grab a third goal.

grab a third goal.

grap a third goal.

Billingham played in Fitzpatrick and he advanced
through the left channel
area before tucking a low
shot past Hutchings.

Glassboys

Poole kept pushing to try and get something out of the game and on 77 minutes sub Warren Byerley turned to work an opening 20 yards out, but Coleman was equal to bis shot. to his shot.

Four minutes later though Gillespie pulled a goal back with a neat finish from the edge of the box into the bottom corner of the net, but on 85 minutes Stourbridge restored their three goal on 85 minutes Stourbridge restored their three-goal cushion after Geddes was pulled down by Cann inside the box to win a penalty and Geddes drilled home from the spot to grab his 11th goal of the campaign – all of them penalties!

Some sloppy defending

Some sloppy defending two minutes into stoppage time allowed Poole to pull a goal back after both Broadhurst and Bennett unable to hurst and Bennett unable to clear the ball properly before Ekow Elliott pulled a pass back for Brooks to shoot goalwards with Gillespie diverting the ball past Coleman for his second of the afternoon, but there was still sufficient time for Gary Hackett's men to grab a fifth goal before the whistle. A pass from Geddes was

A pass from Geddes was missed by Billingham, but he inadvertently set up Fitzpatrick behind him and he struck past Hutchings.



Poole's Carl Pettefer brings down Sean Geddes who now has 11 goals from penalties

Pictures: Trevor Roberts

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